

الجمعة 3 مايو 1996

Friday May 3 1996

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Canada C 1.00	Jordan J 1.00	Slovenia S 1.00
Cyprus C 1.00	Korea K 1.00	Spain S 1.00
Czech Republic KC 1.00	Kuwait K 1.00	Sweden S 1.00
Denmark D 1.00	Latvia L 1.00	Switzerland SF 1.00
Dubai D 1.00	Lithuania L 1.00	Taiwan T 1.00
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# The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR  
46,543

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

With Europe's weather

The return of the world's most reclusive director

Battle of the best-sellers

## Review

## Searching for Stanley Kubrick



## Archer v Grisham

Guide to the summer music festivals

Plus: pick of the Proms

Books page 10

# Farmers angry, but burger chain buys British again Rage at beef muddle

Owen Bowcott and Rebecca Smithers

**T**HE fast food chain Wimpy, which joined the stampede from British beef earlier this year, yesterday put home-grown burgers back on its menus amid signs that consumer confidence may be recovering from the BSE and CJD scare.

But the first piece of good news for the Government in the six-week crisis, keenly welcomed by John Major, coincided with a fierce row in the Commons over the implementation of the scheme to slaughter cattle over 30 months old.

The scheme was intended to boost consumer confidence in domestic beef by speeding up the eradication of BSE. But farmers complained they had not been told where they could dispose of the cattle, while abattoirs said they were uncertain which had been designated to take part in the subsidised cull.

The National Farmers Union warned that there was growing frustration. "We would like to see the scheme up and running as soon as possible," a spokesman said. "But there is still some confusion about when the scheme is going to start."

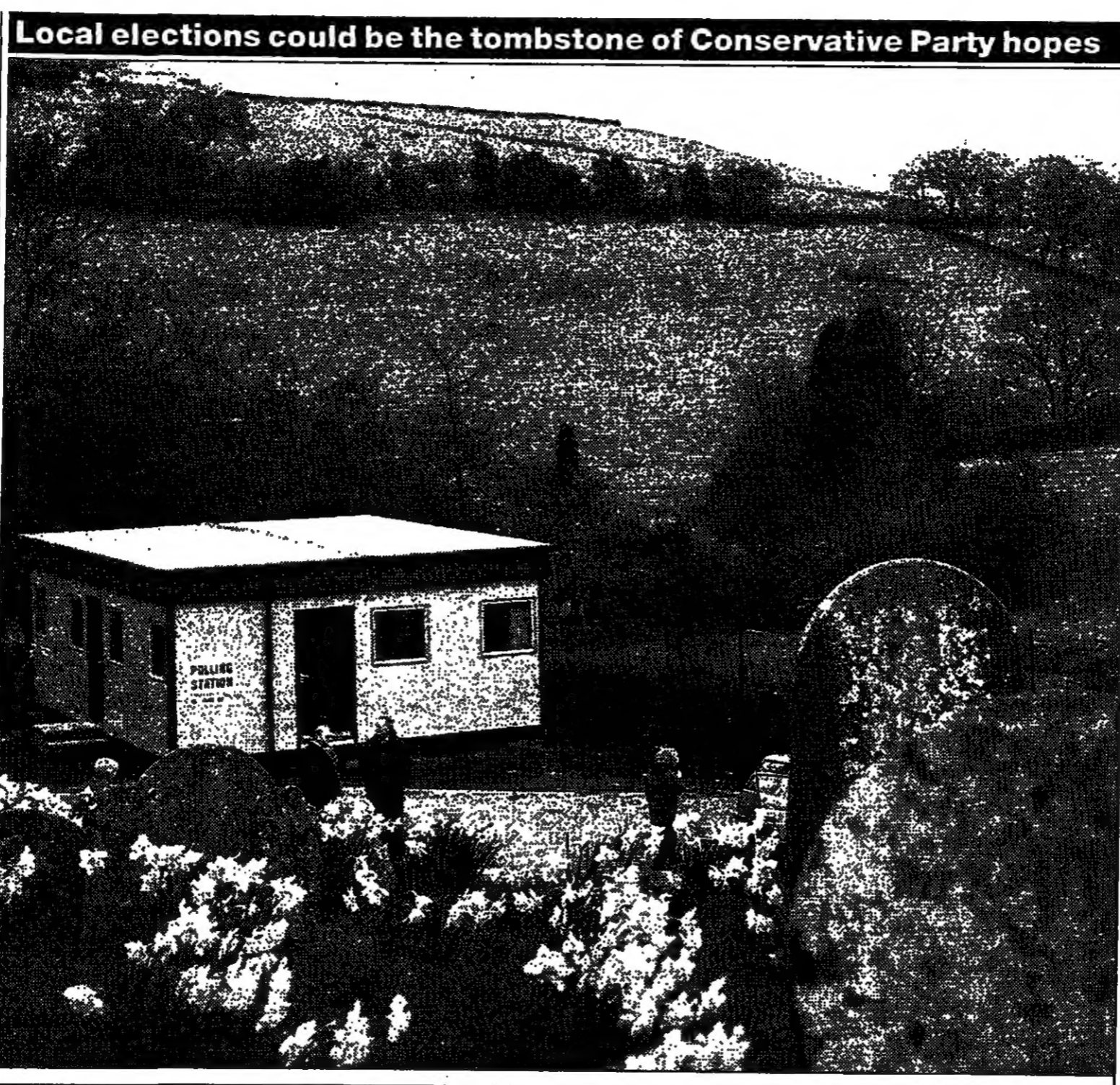
One of those affected, David Bennett, a cattle farmer from Newark, commented yesterday: "It's building up to a monumental mess. Nobody knows who will be picking the cattle up and who will be rendering them."

At Westminster, the Labour leader, Tony Blair, branded the first day of the slaughter scheme as "pretty inept" and demanded a full explanation for the "confusion all around the country".

But the Prime Minister, insisting that farmers who had not yet received information would have it "very speedily", attempted to concentrate on the good news. "I am delighted to see that the Wimpy chain have lifted the ban on British beef with immediate effect," he told cheering Tory MPs.

With the number of cattle sold at market this week only 20 per cent down on pre-scare levels, according to the NFU, and sales of beef through butchers and supermarkets reviving steadily, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission, there is hope that consumer confidence can be restored.

Wimpy, the third largest burger chain in the UK and the only British-owned one, sells more than 20 million beefburgers a year. It said it was reintroducing Britain as its main "approved source" of beef under the slogan "British beef is back". None of the



Local elections could be the tombstone of Conservative Party hopes

**W**AITING for the rush at Wincle polling station, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, where the local elections are a grave matter. The tellers, who try to assess the party allegiance of voters, are rarely busy even at peak voting time in the main centres. Nationally, although 10 million people were registered to vote in yesterday's elections the turnout was, as always, low. Despite this, politicians of all parties regard the results as a nationwide judgment on the Government's record and a bad result for the Conservatives makes it even harder for the Government to survive until this time next year, the cut-off point for a general election.

PHOTOGRAPH: DON McPHEE

# Lord Taylor to retire as cancer is diagnosed

Claire Dyer and Barbie Dutter

**T**HE Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, is to retire after being diagnosed as suffering from cancer, Downing Street announced last night.

Lord Taylor, aged 66, will continue to carry out his administrative duties until a successor is appointed.

The Prime Minister said he was "deeply sad" to hear the news.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, said: "I am very sad indeed that ill health has caused Lord Taylor to retire as Lord Chief Justice after only four years in office. "I would like to acknowledge the very positive working relationship we have enjoyed since Lord Taylor's appointment in 1992 and to pay tribute to his great energy and commitment, to his achievements, and to his contribution to the development of the criminal law during his time in office as Lord Chief Justice."

Lord Taylor took over as Lord Chief Justice to restore confidence in the criminal justice system after a devastating series of miscarriages of justice.

His style was in complete contrast to his predecessor, Lord Lane, who maintained a sphinx-like silence with the media and kept his distance from Home Office officials and politicians.

Lord Taylor kicked off with a press conference — the first ever held by a Lord Chief Justice — followed with briefings from time to time.

He played a full part in the debate about the criminal justice system and made no secret of his disagreement with the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, on a number of issues. Most recently, he voiced strong opposition to minimum sentences for drug

dealers and mandatory sentences for repeat violent and sexual offenders.

He was a strong supporter of the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into English law. He argued that signing up to the convention but requiring our citizens to make the trek to Strasbourg, was "washing our dirty linen in public".

Lord Taylor's illness is a double blow to his family because his wife, Irene, the mother of his three daughters and a son, died only last year from a brain tumour.

He was born into a Jewish family of doctors and lawyers in Newcastle upon Tyne and remained proud of his Geordie roots. He had a distinguished career at the criminal bar.

At the start of the second world war, when he was aged nine, he and his brother were evacuated to the Lake District where they lived with a widow in Penrith. It was here that he first met his wife-to-be, who had been evacuated to nearby Keswick.

On his return to Newcastle, he pursued a formal education at Newcastle Royal Grammar School where he excelled at sports and was talented enough as a classical pianist to contemplate professional musicianship.

He was called to the Bar in 1954 and as a barrister prosecuted high profile trials such as those of the corrupt property developer John Poulson and the former Liberal leader, Jeremy Thorpe. He became a High Court judge in 1980 and an Appeal Court judge in 1988.

He came to national prominence in 1988 when he was appointed to head the inquiry into the Hillsborough football disaster. His report, which was widely praised, called for all-seat stadiums and led the Government to abandon its football identity card system.

# Howard to fight ruling that he acted unlawfully on Bulger

Claire Dyer  
Legal Correspondent

**T**HE High Court dealt the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, a severe blow yesterday, when two judges branded unlawful his decision to fix a minimum term of 15 years in custody for the boys who killed the toddler James Bulger.

Lord Justice Pill and Mr Justice Newman ruled that Mr Howard applied "an unlawful practice" in treating Jon Venables and Robert Thompson, who as children are detained "during her majesty's pleasure", as if they were adult murderers.

The ruling is the latest setback for Mr Howard in his continuing battle with the judges and a clear sign of the judges' determination not to let politics encroach on the sentencing function.

The judiciary is fighting Mr Howard's plans for mandatory and minimum sentences for certain crimes, which it says will be unworkable and fetter its discretion.

Mr Howard said that yesterday's ruling was "quite remarkable". He pledged to appeal and to legislate, if necessary, to preserve "the supremacy of Parliament".

Denise Bulger, the mother of James, condemned the judgment and said her son's

killers should never be released. "They did an adult crime and they should be treated as adults."

Mr Howard said: "Let us not forget this was an appalling crime which deeply shocked the nation. This novel decision is quite remarkable. The power I exercised was given to me by Parliament. It has been exercised 400 times without challenge since 1983."

But any legislation to reverse yesterday's decision is likely to be overturned eventually by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, which is widely expected to hold that the treatment of Thompson and

Venables by the criminal justice system breached the European human rights convention. The boys are challenging the tariff — a minimum period for deterrence and retribution — and their trial in public in an adult court.

They were aged 10 when they abducted two-year-old James from the Strand shopping centre in Bootle, Merseyside, and murdered him on a remote railway line. The trial judge recommended a tariff of eight years, and the Lord Chief Justice increased this to 10 years. Mr Howard increased the tariff again to 15 years after petitions organised by the Bulger family

raised more than 300,000 signatures, and more than 20,000 Sun newspaper readers signed coupons calling for the boys to be detained for life.

Yesterday's decision, if upheld on appeal, almost certainly means an earlier release for the pair, and could force the reassessment of the cases of 230 other offenders.

The ruling also throws into doubt whether the tariff system should apply to young offenders.

Lord Justice Pill said he could not accept Mr Howard fixing a tariff for an offender aged 10 or 11. It was inconsistent with his legal duty to keep the child's case under review.



## Inside

<b>Britain</b> Rupert Allason, the Conservative MP, has lost his High Court action for malicious falsehood against the Daily Mirror.	<b>World News</b> France is to go ahead and slash public spending in order to meet European single currency budget criteria by 1999.	<b>Finance</b> The Government is to get a surprise £2 billion windfall by taking over responsibility for British Coal's pension fund.	<b>Sport</b> Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, has accepted a four-year contract, worth £7m, to replace Terry Venables as England soccer coach.	<b>Comment and Letters</b> 8 Obituaries 10 G2 Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio 16; TV 16
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**Founders.**  
Worth going the extra mile for.

**USHERS FOUNDERS ALE**

Sketch

# Not so noir, more a right carry on



Simon Hoggart

WE might have been watching John Major's last Question Time, but there have been so many of those: just before the 1992 election, after Black Wednesday, on the eve of the leadership vote last year. But as he never tires of telling us, he's still here.

I had hoped that a dark film noir mood might suffice the Chamber. Perhaps it would be like the new cult thriller, *Things To Do In Denver When You're Dead* — *Things To Do In Downing Street When You're Dead*, starring Michael Heseltine as the elegant yet sinister figure of The Man With The Plan.

Instead it was a relaxed, downbeat, even elegiac affair. Barely three dozen Labour MPs were in place, since the rest were at the local elections, knocking up.

(This phrase has a specific slang meaning in America, and when I lived there people still talked about the TV interview a Tory woman MP gave on an election day. "I start the day by knocking up. Then after breakfast, there's more knocking up. And after lunch it's knocking up, knocking up, right until the polls close.")

Mr Major walked in to a loyal cheer from his own side, and an ironic cheer from the sparse Labour benches. Kent's Jacques Arnold gave his opening "Number One, Madam Speaker" sounds like a death rattle. *Things To Do In Deptford When You're Dead* had been dug up by the whips and driven to the House in a sealed hearse to ask the Prime Minister whether he had had a chance to watch the Tory party political broadcast on Wednesday night. This had proved, to Mr Jacques's satisfaction at least, that Tory councils gave better value for council tax.

We were not surprised to learn that John Major agreed with this sentiment. "It is the

nature of the Labour beast," he said — not a reference to Dennis Skinner, but to the party in general — "vote for it and then you'll pay for it."

Mr Blair asked several questions about beef. For once there was no frontal attack on the Prime Minister. Perhaps he felt as we all do when with those about to quit this Vale of Tears; one dreads that one's last words to them might have been unkind.

Mr Major said that the process of slaughtering between 15 and 20,000 cows a week was to begin immediately. Farmers had been given all the information they needed.

Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW) shouted: "That'll make the cows happy!" Mr Banks is unique on two counts: he was pally with John Major on Lambeth council and so may be the last friend the Prime Minister has left in the House. He is also the only MP who seems to think that there is something wrong in slaughtering thousands of animals in order to be sure they are safe to eat.

Mr Major said how pleased he was that the Wimpy hamburger chain had started serving British beef again. "I have no doubt that is the right decision," he said.

Good old John, supporting wimpy people everywhere.

Bridget Prentice (Lab, Lewisham E) tried again to ask Mr Major whether he had agreed to step down for *The Man With The Plan*, if the local poll results are terrible. (Labour MPs don't seem to realise that he cannot just step down for Hezza; there would have to be an election, possibly with several candidates.)

Once again the Prime Minister side-stepped the question. "The last Labour politician who was so serious about elections is now earning his living elsewhere in Europe," he chirruped.

As the minutes flickered away on the digital clock, another Tory, Peter Luff (Worcester) managed to ask him to "seize the opportunity" to remind everyone that Conservative councils offered better value and charged lower taxes.

Mr Major duly seized the greasy spoon. "Labour Liverpool... Labour Lambeth," he droned on, as so often before. Were those his final words to the House? Nah.

First night

# Muzak elevated to an art form

Sam Wollaston

Tania Maria's music is as rich and diverse as Brazil itself. Take one classical piano training, pour it away and replace it with jazz. Add local flavourings — samba, bossa nova, Afro-Latin — and a touch of foreign funk — salsa, a little Seventies spiciness. Shake well and pour on a stream of improvised vocals.

Now 47, Tania doesn't jump around like they say she once did, but she is still a spell-binding performer. Dressed in black with a flaming writing afro mane, hollow cheeks and watery eyes, she looks like a woman from the gloom of Ronnie Scott's, she looks like Stevie Wonder's cousin. She sits at the piano, chubby fingers reflected in the upturned lid, a keyboard to the side. There is no sign of any weariness from years of playing the concert circuit. She immerses herself totally, bending over the piano, and then rises with a rise in pitch, waggling with the beat. Then she throws her head back and looks up for inspiration. Or she'll squirm

and wriggle on the corner of her stool as if she can't hold her music in any longer, before lifting her legs off the ground and cycling maniacally the best. Next she'll stand at the keyboard, sunglasses off, and stare through the crowd. At times her left hand adds to the rhythm of her hand — drums, percussion and six-string bass — while her right plays in unison with her head whatever it means. But most of the time she's just saying: *buva buva bac, bom bom ding da dai or um ba ba bum* — which sounds even better.

The slight roughness of her voice, though to most of us attractive, is perhaps why she had to leave Brazil to succeed. It suits an outsider's stereotype of the country better than how the country sees itself.

Much of her material is taken from her new album *Blueilian* — less commercial than her best-selling *Come With Me*, from the Eighties — and from her last album *No Comment*, so called because of the lack of lyrics.

Close your eyes and she can take you to a palm-fringed beach, a basement jazz club, the 1970s, the lift. Yes, at times Tania Maria does verge on muzak, but if this is lift music, it's probably best not to take the stairs.

Tania Maria is at Ronnie Scott's until tomorrow

# Bronze Age fenland site may close due to lack of funds

Maev Kennedy Heritage Correspondent

ONE of the most famous archaeological sites in the country, Flag Fen in Cambridgeshire, may close.

English Heritage, whose chairman, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, opened a visitor centre at the site last year, has refused further help, and visi-

tor numbers are not bringing in sufficient revenue.

The site director, Francis Pryor, warned last night that unless he can raise £32,000 by the end of June the site will close. He would then seek another national body to maintain the artificial lake which keeps moist and intact the Bronze Age timbers of what was a causeway across the lake.



Alastair Campbell: Judge termed him 'not by any means a satisfactory witness' and said he had been less than frank



Rupert Allason: Rival spy writer Chapman Pincher was once moved to describe him as 'that little whippersnapper'

# MP's case against Mirror thrown out

David Pallister

RUPERT Allason, the Tory MP for Torbay, yesterday lost his High Court action for malicious falsehood against the Daily Mirror, but the judge found that the newspaper had published an inaccurate story about him that was prompted by malice.

Mr Allason's claim fell because he was unable to prove that he had suffered financial loss. The court also found that after the story was published in November 1992, Mr Allason had reached a binding agreement to settle his complaint with a correction and an apology, published six days later.

The MP faces costs of up to £250,000.

Mr Allason had sued Mirror Group Newspapers, Alastair Campbell, the paper's former political editor and now Tony Blair's press secretary, and another former Mirror journalist, Andy McSmith, now with the Observer.

After the judgment by Sir Maurice Drake, who remarked on the animosities displayed in the case, both sides claimed victory.

Mr Allason said: "I am very pleased that the judge found that the Mirror was false and that what was published was published with malice."

Mr Campbell, who was criticised by the judge for being an unconvincing witness, said he was "extremely pleased." He claimed that the judgment had vindicated all three defendants.

The story that prompted Mr Allason's complaint was an 11-line item which said that 50 MPs had challenged Mr Allason to give the £250,000 damages he had just received from the Mirror in a libel action to Mirror pensioners.

The article was based on a Commons early day motion which had been conceived by a Mirror journalist, David Bradshaw. But at first it was signed by only seven MPs and the story was therefore inaccurate.

Mr Allason claimed that just before the apology was published, he was told Mr Campbell had been the inspiration behind it.

Sir Maurice found that Mr Campbell had taken no part in the composition of the motion or in canvassing support for it.

He said that while Mr Campbell had "strong malicious general feelings" towards Mr Allason, he had not acted with malice in this case. Mr McSmith was also cleared of malice.

But the judge said Mr Bradshaw was malicious in drafting the motion, getting a Labour MP to table it, and seeking to publish the story in haste. Mirror Group Newspapers were equally motivated by malice.

Sir Maurice said he did not find Mr Campbell "by any means a wholly satisfactory or convincing witness". He had found him "less than completely open and frank".

The judge said he had given great care to the evidence of the Labour MP, George Galloway, who claimed he saw Mr Campbell trying to enlist support for the motion from an MP.

"I have no doubt that Mr Galloway strongly dislikes Mr Campbell and holds him in utter contempt, but I also have no doubt that Mr Campbell strongly dislikes Mr Galloway," the judge said.

"The same feelings exist between Mr Allason and Mr Campbell. The way they gave their evidence made all that clear." Although Mr Galloway was an impressive witness, he decided to reject his story.

The judge found that an agreement between Mr Allason and the Mirror to publish an apology and a correction was binding, even though Mr Allason had not given his written consent.

He also found that Mr Allason had failed to prove he had lost a book contract for £100,000 because of the controversy or that he had suffered financial loss in other ways.

## Allason

RUPERT Allason keeps his cool by practicing transcendental meditation. But that doesn't mean to say those cultivated tresses (George Best circa 1972) can't be ruffled, writes David Pallister.

Indeed, yesterday's failed action against the Daily Mirror was his 24th piece of litigation and there are another two in the pipeline: against Joe Haines, the Mirror's former leader writer, and the General Practitioner magazine. His targets have included the Sunday Times, the

## Campbell

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL, Tony Blair's 33-year-old press secretary, gathers enemies like moss. In the nation's newsrooms there will be many executives echoing the judge's remarks that he is not "by any means a wholly satisfactory or convincing witness", writes Patrick Wintour.

Mr Campbell, certain to be the Downing Street press secretary in a Blair premiership, is a professional capable, like all decent spin doctors, of the odd memory lapse in the interests of presenting Labour.

He insists, however, he never lies in his job, merely withholding information if that is his party's interest.

Those who know him admit the image of a haughty, supremely self-confident man is awry. The court case has been a personal ordeal. He planned to resign if he lost the case, arguing he would lose credibility with his colleagues at Westminster. He feels that is why Mr Allason, with the tacit support of Tory high command, launched the case.

Mr Campbell's critics claim he is too fierce a loyalist. He has passionately defended Neil Kinnock, Burnley Football club and, less passion-

New Statesman, the Mail On Sunday, Today, the Independent, and the Daily Mirror twice.

Mr Allason, aged 44, aka the writer of spy histories Nigel West, is a difficult man to photograph, which is why he makes the Tory whips so apologetic.

A distinguished army family and an education at the Roman Catholic public school Downside contributed to his aversion to disciplines that are not self-imposed.

But he is no libertarian. A notorious Euro-sceptic and persistent critic of Maas-tricht, he supports a tighter abortion law and is against

lowering the age of homosexual consent. He favours a return to capital punishment and supports war crimes trials.

He wants to have dogs registered — a favourite hobby-horse — and dolphins protected.

Mr Allason, MP for Torbay since 1987, wrote his first factual book on spooks in 1981. His successful literary career, including four novels, has made him a wealthy man, all the more disinclined to know how to party dictates for the sake of promotion. His wife, Nikki, of Dutch-Swiss origins and brought up in Bermuda, also has independent means.

His spy books turned him into something of a professional controversialist, incurring the displeasure of successive Conservative governments for revealing names and making allegations about Soviet penetration of the intelligence services.

His wealth — a succession of Fortescues, homes in Bermuda, New York, Berkshire and Zermatt — and a polished aura of superiority have also made him enemies. Chapman Pincher, doyen of spy writers, once described him as "that little whippersnapper". Fellow historians have also been snooty.

ately, Robert Maxwell, his former proprietor.

Since his appointment by Mr Blair, he has been wholly dedicated to his task, running a small, effective publicity team. It involves the most punishing hours, and availability to the media round the clock, seven days a week. He prides himself on his team returning every call.

He is — in a controlled way — aggressive, sneering and sometimes boorish. Charming is used as a last resort. But he laughs at himself more than newspaper executives realise, and his famous temper is often a professional act.

He knows the Westminster lobby system inside out, and

knows what black mischief works. If he feels a journalist has stepped out of line, he will have no compunction in trying to punish him by feeding a story to a rival. Generally, he does not operate by selective internal party leaks.

He has made it a personal mission to win Mr Blair better publicity in the Tory tabloids. He has never, however, believed this wailing of the Tory press, including a stream of articles by Mr Blair himself, will win Labour editorial endorsements at the election.

Pluralism is not his style. If he ever mentions the Liberals, it is with contempt, and he normally adds "mammy pammy" and "Guardian".

# Most city 7-year-olds 'below par on literacy'

John Carvel Education Editor

ALMOST 80 per cent of seven-year-olds in inner-city state schools fail to reach the reading standard expected for their age group, according to a report by the Office for Standards in Education.

After a study of literacy in the London boroughs of Islington, Southwark and Tower Hamlets, school inspectors found a substantial majority of children were being left without the basic skills needed for the rest of their education.

Ofsted refused last night to confirm details of the report, which is due to be released on Tuesday. But

spokesmen for the three London education authorities accused Chris Woodhead, the chief inspector, of slanting the evidence for political reasons.

"The report is understood to conclude that teaching is less than satisfactory in one in three lessons, and head teachers show insufficient leadership in one in three schools.

Although plenty of time was devoted to teaching children to read, it was not always used to good effect. Teachers were held back by inadequate grasp of appropriate teaching methods and needed better training.

The investigation of seven-year-olds' reading in 45 inner London schools was carried out by joint

teams of inspectors from Ofsted and the local authorities, but the final report was written by Mr Woodhead.

"The report has been redrafted to emphasise problems in teachers' skills and headteachers' leadership", said Phil Kelly, education chairman of Islington.

He added: "The slanting is clearly intended to parody to the prejudices of Mr Woodhead's political masters."

Mr Woodhead was understood to be standing by his report and pointing out that it was consistent with Islington's own research earlier this year showing inadequate literacy standards among 80 per cent of 11-year-olds.

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# Cantona's tormentor sent down

Vivek Chaudhary

**T**HE Crystal Palace football fan who was the target of Eric Cantona's infamouskung-fu kick last year was fined by magistrates yesterday for provoking the footballer, but later imprisoned for launching his own attack on the prosecuting lawyer.

Matthew Simmons, aged 21, threw himself at Jeffrey McCann, grabbing him around the neck, trying to haul him over a table and appearing to kick him in the chest. He attacked as the lawyer, aged 55, asked magistrates to ban Simmons from all football grounds.

As Mr McCann, aged 55, who led the prosecution's case during the three-day trial at Croydon magistrates court, south London, six police officers rushed into the courtroom to restrain Simmons, who then rushed at the press box shouting "I am innocent. I swear on the bible. You press, you are scum."

The trial was adjourned and Simmons was bundled away in handcuffs. Mary Richards, chairman of the bench, later sentenced him to seven days' imprisonment for "serious contempt".

"Your violent outburst was an obvious and serious contempt of court and we feel that a term of custody is appropriate," she told Simmons.

For his involvement in the Cantona incident, which took place during the Crystal Palace-Manchester United Premier League game in January 1995, Simmons, of Thornton Heath, Surrey, was fined £500 after being found guilty of using threatening, obscene or insulting words or behaviour

likely to cause immediately unlawful violence by another person.

He was also found guilty of a second charge of using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour within the hearing or sight of a person likely to be caused harassment, alarm or distress.

Magistrates ruled, however, that there would be no fine for this offence, but they banned Simmons from all professional football grounds for 12 months.

Adam Davis, defending, told magistrates that his client apologised for the courtroom attack and that he had just snapped.

"He's had this case hanging over him for nearly a year and a half and has had to run the gauntlet of the press."

"He's suffered death threats, abuse and had bullets sent to him in the post... bearing in mind that he's 21 years of age... Having to deal with all this and the pressure building and building, he snapped."

Mr Davis also told the court Simmons had recently been in hospital suffering from a panic attack, and had lost his job since the Cantona affair.

Simmons apologised to Mr McCann for his actions. He told the magistrates: "I don't think anything I say can justify my actions but I can only apologise to Mr McCann."

During the hearing, the court was told that Simmons rushed from his seat at the game, hurling racial abuse and making obscene gestures at Cantona as the player was sent off.

Cantona was sentenced to two weeks' jail for common assault for his part in the incident at the match. This was later reduced to 120 hours' community service.



Damien Hirst relaxes in New York before his first major one-man show opens tonight. Behind is his polka dot painting, Blue For Girls And Pink For Boys. PHOTOGRAPH: ELLEN BINDER

# Damien Hirst's cows send New York into a pickle

The artist is drawing unusual critics — health inspectors, reports Ian Katz

**T**HE United States department of agriculture has developed a keen interest in British conceptual art. Its inspectors have been regular visitors at the gallery where a small army of artists and technicians have this week been assembling Damien Hirst's first important New York exhibition.

They are particularly interested in the work entitled Some Comfort Gained from the Acceptance of Inherent Lives in Everything. "They were worried that if someone ate it, there was no evidence that the formaldehyde would

kill BSE," explained the Turner Prize-winning artist.

"I told them nobody's going to eat it but they said that's not the point. I told them that if anyone ate it, the formaldehyde would kill them anyway, but that said that's not the point either."

It was hard enough to mount an exhibition of Hirst's animal sculptures in New York before the BSE scare. When the artist tried to display some of his trademark dead cows a few months ago, the city's health department banned the exhibit because of concern over "the

odours and fluids created by the rotting process".

Mr Hirst, aged 31, got around the objections by pickling his animals in formaldehyde, but then came the mad cow panic. US authorities first refused to allow the bovine artwork into the country because of the worldwide ban on British beef imports, only agreeing after sympathetic politicians pulled strings in Washington, he said.

Priced at \$300,000, the animal sculpture which will go on display at Manhattan's Gagosian Gallery tonight is one of Mr Hirst's most ambitious, comprising two cows, each sliced into six pieces suspended in 12 glass tanks of formaldehyde solution.

"I like to cut things open," Mr Hirst explained, tucking into a fillet steak. "It's together but separated.

It's about looking. You can see the inside and the outside at the same time."

Mr Hirst arrived in New York buoyed by the sale last week of his best-known work, the severed cow and calf duo that helped to win him the Turner Prize. The work, entitled Mother and Child Divided, has been bought by an unidentified European museum for about \$240,000.

He particularly likes working with cows because they are "the most slaughtered animal in the history of the world", yet are taken largely for granted. His latest cow work is "more like something you would do with a tiger".

Entitled "No Sense of Absolute Corruption", the exhibition also features a pig sliced in two and suspended in two tanks which will move back and forth "like a bacon

slicer". It is titled This Little Piggy Went to Market. This Little Piggy Stayed at Home.

There are also a number of his trademark spin-paintings, an eight-foot ashtray filled with cigarette butts and a brightly coloured beach-ball that levitates above a colourful air-blower. "If you don't like this show then you don't like me," said the artist. "I don't see how anyone cannot like the beach-ball piece."

A team of artists and workers laboured through the night to assemble the exhibition and iron out last-minute problems like how to stop the animal parts floating at different levels in their tanks. "Our biggest worry was that the animals had never met the tanks until they arrived here," said Hugh Allan, who runs Mr Hirst's Brixton studio. A single hoof poked out from one of the silver vacuum-packed bags in which Mr Hirst's animals were flown to the US. The artist gestured apologetically towards the greyish flesh of one cow section. "It looks better in formaldehyde. When it's in liquid it comes to life."

He just tries to "make things that I'd like to see if I went into an art gallery", he said, professing bemusement at the controversy his animal sculptures generate. "I can't see the difference between going into the butcher's and seeing it in an art gallery." The exhibition though has already elicited howls of outrage from animal rights activists and residents around the SoHo gallery.

# BT £33bn merger talks collapse

Simon Beavis and Chris Barrie

**B**ITISH Telecom's dreams of creating one of the world's biggest telephone companies collapsed last night with the failure of £33 billion merger talks with its erstwhile rival, Cable & Wireless.

Five months of tough negotiations ended after a marathon meeting of the C&W board agreed that the hurdles to a merger were too high.

The blow to BT's plans to transform itself into one of the world's most powerful international players in the lucrative and fast growing telecoms market leaves it in a strategic cul-de-sac, just as it is steepling itself for a battle over telephone prices with the UK regulator which could end up in a Monopolies Commission inquiry.

Both companies face the immediate prospect of a collapse in their share prices. Had talks proved successful, BT would have gained a powerful foothold in the Asia-Pacific market, through Cable & Wireless's valuable 57.5 per cent stake in Hong Kong Telecom, an even stronger base in Germany and consolidation of its US position.

The merger would have created a telecoms giant employing 180,000 staff worldwide, with a turnover of £20 billion. But observers of the talks suggested that the steam appeared to have gone out of the negotiations in the last five days as both sides grappled with a series of complex regulatory issues, both at home and abroad, which looked increasingly insurmountable.

BT, led by its chairman, Sir Iain Vallance, said last night: "Our conclusion was that the risks, at this stage, outweighed the prospective opportunities."

Fund managers said last night that the rocky relations between BT and the British Telecoms watchdog, Don Cruickshank, were a decisive factor behind the collapse.

# Channel 4 calls off show featuring Diana lookalike

Barbie Dutler

**A** TELEVISION programme in which a Diana lookalike is put on the couch in a simulated psychoanalysis of the Princess of Wales was last night pulled by Channel 4.

The Without Walls programme, psychoanalysing Diana, was to be transmitted on Tuesday but was shelved after Channel 4's controller, Michael Grade, and director of programmes, John Willis, declared it "did not work".

Their decision came after the show's contents were outlined by a number of newspapers, prompting the Princess's office to contact Channel 4 to express concern and ask for a preview cassette. The request was refused.

In the half-hour programme, a direct parallel is drawn between the Princess's bulimia and her "consumption and regurgitation" of men.

The lookalike, Nicky Lilley, utters a number of epithets, railing against the media and

calling Prince Charles a "bastard". The programme's presenter, psychoanalyst Dylan Evans, who conducts the reconstructed cross-examination of the "Princess", claims Diana is fixated on her younger brother Charles.

Mr Willis said in a statement last night: "This was a very innovative concept. In the end, Michael Grade and I decided that the idea did not work."

Princess Diana: aides made request for tape

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Princess Diana: aides made request for tape

# Swiss banks in deal with Jews

Ian Katz in New York

**S**WISS bankers have agreed to open their previously guarded custody of secret accounts to allow Jewish groups to hunt for millions of dollars believed to have been deposited before and during the second world war by Holocaust victims.

Under an agreement signed yesterday in New York a team of independent auditors will be given "unfettered access to all relevant files" held by the Swiss financial institutions, where many European Jews opened accounts to protect their assets from the Nazis.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said the agreement would be "a milestone if the letter and spirit are carried out". Representatives of the Congress, the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, and the Swiss Bankers' Association flew to New York to sign the two-page document.

Jewish organisations and relatives of those killed by the Nazis have been fighting for years to be allowed to search the records of Swiss banks for accounts which have lain dormant since the war.

They claim that Swiss banks have grossly underestimated the sums deposited by Holocaust victims. In September, the Swiss Bankers' Association said a survey of its members had identified \$34.1 million in some 775 accounts, which appeared to belong to Jews later killed by the Nazis.

Jewish organisations claim that the true figure may be as high as \$7 billion, pointing out that the Swiss Bankers' Association figures do not in-

clude accounts opened by Swiss nationals who may have been acting for Jews from other European countries.

Pressure on the Swiss authorities for a more open investigation of wartime accounts has come from President Clinton and the Senate banking committee, which held hearings on the issue last week.

Under yesterday's agreement, a team of six members — three appointed by Jewish groups and three by the banks — will supervise the auditors' hunt for dormant accounts.

The deal is a step towards resolving a long dispute between international Jewry and the Swiss banks. Many heirs of Holocaust victims believe the banks have tried to hide behind their secrecy laws to avoid restoring the money to its rightful owners.

Ironically, Switzerland framed its famous financial secrecy laws in the 1930s precisely to attract fearful customers like the European Jews, desperate to hide their money from the Nazis.

The auditors face a massive task. They plan to examine the records for all accounts opened in Swiss banks between the early 1930s and the mid-1940s which have shown no activity since then.

Recently released documents have identified 182 accounts opened by Romanian Jews in one Swiss bank alone. Totalling around \$2 million when the deposits were made, the sum in the accounts is estimated to have swollen to \$20 million with interest.

Where heirs cannot be found to claim the money, the funds will be distributed to charities.

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**I asked Julian Senior, vice-president of publicity for Warner in London, if they really expect Kubrick to deliver after all those years. "We keep paying the overhead on that hope and belief," he said.**

Peter Lennon

4 BRITAIN

# Lottery 'has not robbed charities'

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

**M**ORE than twice as many families are playing the National Lottery as are giving direct to charity, according to the first comprehensive official figures published yesterday.

Ministers cited the figures as proof that the overall level of charitable giving had not been hit by the lottery. But charity leaders said the study had not fully covered fundraising forms most vulnerable to lottery competition.

The figures come from provisional 1995 results of the Government's Family Expenditure Survey, based on interviews with 6,780 households, and have been released early because the Department of National Heritage is due this month to report to Parliament on how the lottery has affected charitable giving.

The Office for National Statistics, which undertakes the survey, admits that the results "significantly under-record" lottery spending, and is investigating why, but maintains that they still represent a valuable indicator.

According to the results, total spending on the lottery (including scratchcard games) is an average £3.20 for households which participate. Including those households which do not play the lottery, the average is £2.20 a week. This compares to a figure of £3.80 for all households, derived from the records of Camelot, the lottery operator.

The expenditure survey findings show that lottery spending among participating households rose from £1.90 for the poorest fifth, ranked by income, to £3.80 for the richest two-fifths.

Virginia Bottomley, Heritage Secretary, said it was reassuring that spending related directly to income. The survey also showed that "there continues to be no hard evidence that people are giving less to charity".

This was a reference to the survey finding that average charitable giving among all households in 1995 was £1.30 a week, the same as in 1994, and that the proportion of households saying they gave to charity was also virtually unchanged at 32 per cent (average giving £4.10).

However, this compares with 70 per cent who say they play the lottery — 4,726 of the 6,780 sample, against 2,143 giving to charity. Moreover, the survey's definition of charitable giving is based in direct cash contributions and excludes subscriptions and proceeds of raffles, bazaars, and charity shops.

A spokesman for the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, which has argued the lottery has badly hit many charities, said: "Our research shows the areas not included are those most affected by the lottery."

The survey findings show that people aged 50-65 are those spending most on the lottery (an average £3.60 a week among participating households), and those aged over 75 the least (£2.10). Perhaps surprisingly, those aged under 30 spend only £2.70.

Christian Aid fears it could lose up to £2 million if its annual fundraising week coincides with a rollover of the lottery jackpot, writes Madeleine Bunting. Contingency plans for last-minute advertising to combat a rollover have been drawn up by the charity, following a drop of £200,000 last year attributed to the lottery. Christian Aid Week, which starts a week on Monday, May 13, is the biggest third world fundraising event in Britain. Donations totalled £9 million last year.

"We are really concerned the lottery could have a significant impact. We could lose millions," said Kate Phillips, Christian Aid's external relations director. It raises more than a third of its £25 million annual donated income in the week, and also concentrates its £500,000 advertising budget in the same week.



Police in Easterhouse where gang fighting has declined steeply since mounted patrols began. PHOTOGRAPH: MURDO MacLEOD

# Mounted police used to curb street fighting

Erland Cloosterman

**M**OUNTED police have been drafted in to help suppress gang fighting at a Glasgow housing estate.

Each night four mounted policemen patrol Easterhouse, on the outskirts of Glasgow, where scores of sword- and machete-wielding teenagers have been active. Police are cautiously calling the week-old experiment a success, with a steep decline in the almost institutionalised street fighting.

The patrols are the idea of Superintendent David Mulhern, who discovered that inter-territorial warfare was the principal worry of residents when he took charge of operations in the sprawling 1960s estate last August.

Mr Mulhern's theory is that the horses' combination of bulk and manoeuvrability will deter the groups from pursuing each other round the parkland created by cutting the num-

ber of Easterhouse homes from 30,000 to 16,000.

Since the horses were introduced alongside 13 other members of the newly-created Disorder Unit, nightly calls reporting fights have shrunk from 12 to two.

Mr Mulhern views the funding as a game that has got out of hand: "It's wee boys playing chase, but it just needs someone to slip for them to become a murder statistic." Every year at least one boy is beaten or stabbed to death, with many seriously wounded.

The mounted policemen are being supplemented by school visits and a plan to create six cafes, to be run by young people stranded by a local unemployment rate of 18 per cent. At the set to close next month because of lack of funding, supervisor and former gang member Willie Sawers warned Mr Mulhern not to raise his hopes. "I hope it works, but when the light nights come up, that's when the fighting really starts."

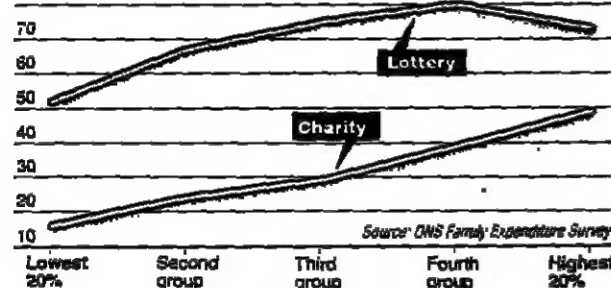
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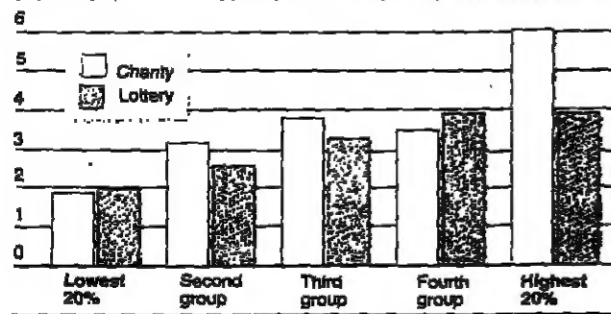
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Lottery or charity?

% of households taking part in the lottery and giving to charity, by income group



Average weekly expenditure (£), of participating households



# Commons move to pardon 300 executed WW1 soldiers

John Ezard

**T**HREE hundred British soldiers shot by firing squads in the first world war for military offences including desertion and cowardice could be posthumously pardoned following a Commons vote next week.

Many of the soldiers were shell-shocked. Many of their relatives did not learn of the true reason for their deaths until decades afterwards.

The call for pardons made yesterday by the Labour MP Andrew MacKinlay is aimed at comforting the surviving veterans and relatives "in the evening of their lives". It has the backing of a Royal British Legion conference vote.

But government ministers are unlikely to be sympathetic. The Ministry of Defence said last night: "We cannot, alas, reverse history. The law of the land was that capital punishment was used on those who deserted and so on."

"One cannot reverse that any more than one can remove the stigma from those

who had their relatives hanged for murder in the 1950s, before capital punishment was repealed. Our parliament does not do retrospective legislation.

Teddy Noyce, chairman of the London and South-east branch of the Old Contemptibles Association, representing veterans who fought in the war, said: "They have mixed feelings."

"Some are sympathetic, others not. The other day I was reading an unpublished Gallipoli diary entry about an executed man. It said: 'Well, he'd had three chances...' — meaning he'd already committed the offence three times."

"It's very difficult to put today's values on yesterday's events."

Mr MacKinlay, MP for Thurrock in Essex, is tabling the call as amendments to the Armed Forces Bill, which he hopes will be voted on by the Commons on Thursday. He said he had all-party support. A 26,000-strong petition has already been presented to Parliament.

To judge from some of the letters I receive, there are those for whom our festival at Glastonbury has become a kind of Mecca. Michael Eavis

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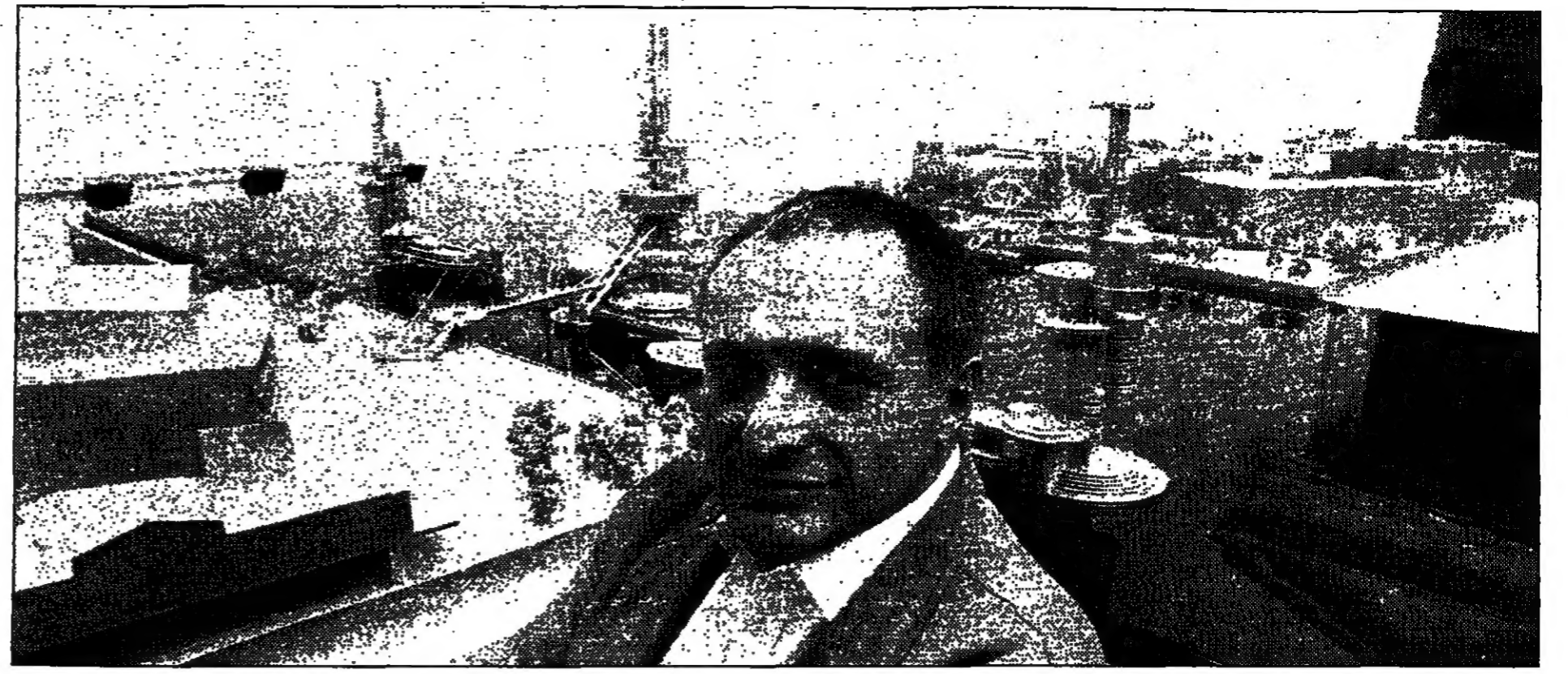
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Roge bluep for a Britain of cult and fu

Appeal o drug dea

Architect makes a plea to end 'the alienation and anger that results in the burning of cities'. James Meikle reports

# Rogers's blueprint for a Britain of culture and fun



Sir Richard Rogers says there should be greater investment from the private and public sectors to help the poor out of a spiral of despair

PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

**James Meikle**  
**O**NE of Britain's most eminent architects yesterday appealed for a social and political revolution to match the creation of the welfare state, reverse Britain's embarrassment with culture, and end its love affair with the past.

Sir Richard Rogers said voluntary and community service should be rewarded by payment for the unemployed, tax breaks for those in work, and there should be greater investment from the private and public sectors to help the

poor out of a spiral of despair. A new Labour government should create a senior cabinet post responsible for developing "creative leisure", "creative citizenship", or "a community of culture" to combat growing divisions in society.

The Department of National Heritage should undergo a name and role change. "Heritage is about buildings; culture is about people. Heritage is about the past; culture is about the present, and future. Heritage encourages the notion of Britain looking over its shoulder. We have a problem with the word culture no one else has."

In an interview with the Guardian, he said that when he was involved in the design of the Pompidou Centre in Paris, it had to be talked of in terms like "fun palace" rather than cultural activity. "And we talk of leisure with a Victorian feeling of guilt."

Adding his voice to Tony Blair's stakeholding debate, Sir Richard, who in last year's BBC Reith lectures railed against the privatisation and brutalisation of cities, said the community sector needed help from the market and the state.

An erosion of civic responsibility and changing patterns of employment had helped create a crisis of confidence, alienation and anger. "It ends up with the burning of cities and the creation of ghettos... We have lost civic identity, we have lost pride, purpose and public participation."

In the industrial age, people's lives were fully occupied. Now many people face a life without traditional forms of work, and had little to fill the void. Volunteers already worked in schools, hospitals, with old people, and with those in need of shelter. Self-help tenants' organisations on big public housing estates, or self-build construction groups, showed how communities could prosper with the right leadership, enthusiasm, and support. "If you have involved citizens in these communities, you are well on the way to creating a responsible society. You need a carrot. Perhaps if you do a certain amount of 'credit' hours, you get some payment rather than simply be 'unemployed', or have some tax advantage if you are wealthy enough."



**'Heritage is about buildings; culture is about people. Heritage is about the past; culture is about the present, and the future. Heritage encourages the notion of Britain looking over its shoulder. We have a problem with the word culture no one else has'**

**'We have lost civic identity, we have lost pride, purpose, and public participation... If you have involved citizens you are well on the way to creating a responsible society'**

**'The market must realise it costs billions to build new prisons, to supply drug needs, to have a totally spiritless public. It puts tourists off, if nothing simpler, to go down poor streets full of poor people'**

The Pompidou Centre in Paris: it had to be talked of in terms like 'fun palace' rather than cultural activity

## Appeal court overturns drug dealing conviction

**Duncan Campbell**  
**Crime Correspondent**  
**A**N IRANIAN who claimed that the police had fabricated evidence against him on a heroin dealing charge yesterday won his appeal against conviction. It is believed to be the first case in which the Court of Appeal accepted a linguist as an expert witness for evaluating police evidence on alleged verbal admissions.

Daniel Raphael, aged 35, from west London, succeeded in his appeal against his 1989 conviction for possession of heroin with intent to supply. He served 44 months of a five year sentence and says he has been unable to work since because of injuries sustained during his arrest. He is now bringing a civil action against the police. Mr Raphael, who came to Britain in 1978, was arrested at his home in 1988. The arresting officers claimed he had made damning admissions during the raid.

The detectives claimed they had seen him flush a packet of heroin down the toilet, saying: "Fuck it. It was heroin. I didn't want to get caught holding it." He had allegedly added: "I sell a bit."

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President nervous of commerce exploding upon election agenda

# Clinton in quandary over Chinese trade 'piracy'

Martin Walker in Washington

THE presidential election campaign and concern about policy towards China are buffeting Bill Clinton's administration as it considers whether to impose more than \$1 billion-worth (£690 million) of sanctions against Beijing for its failure to carry out last year's agreement to control the piracy of compact discs, computer software and videos.

"Piracy remains rampant and economic damage to US industries continues to rise," according to a report to Congress by the United States trade representative. Officials have threatened sanctions, warning the US "will not hesitate to enforce our trade laws".

Despite the threat, Ira Shapiro, the deputy US trade

chief, yesterday told reporters that China was "on its own track" of consultations. In effect, the decision on whether to impose sanctions has been left to President Clinton.

The White House is waiting for a long-promised — but repeatedly delayed — speech on China by Senator Bob Dole, the Republican presidential challenger, and fears an attack on Mr Clinton's "appeasement" of Beijing.

After China's sabre-rattling against Taiwan in March, and the precautionary deployment of two US aircraft carriers, a partisan election-year clash may be looming over one of the most delicate issues in US foreign policy.

Republicans have traditionally favoured Taiwan. The chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, Jesse Helms, and the speaker of the House of Representa-

tives, Newt Gingrich, have both suggested that Taiwan's independence should be recognised and supported.

Mr Dole is not expected to go that far, but he will probably attack Mr Clinton for allowing China to enjoy what appears likely to be a \$50 billion trade surplus with the US this year.

To complicate matters, Mr Clinton has to decide by June 3 whether to continue granting China "most favoured nation" trading status.

Whatever he decides will prove controversial, with supporters of Tibet, human rights and Taiwan confronting corporate America, whose eyes are fixed hungrily on the world's most promising and fastest-growing market.

The key issue remains whether China will be slowly liberalised by an open trading regime, or whether this can

only be done through tough US measures that force it to abide by international trading rules. Mr Clinton has given China the benefit of the doubt so far, after intense lobbying by US corporations and his own commerce secretary, the late Ron Brown.

This may become difficult to justify following the trade representative's report, which flatly says that Beijing "has failed to stop illegal CD, video and CD-Rom production at some 31 plants operating in China, failed to prevent the export of infringing goods, or to honour its promises to grant market access for legitimate audio-visual products".

After splitting his own party and relying on Republicans to pass free trade pacts with Mexico and the Gatt signatories, Mr Clinton is nervous of trade becoming an election issue.



Safe... Police rescue a Vietnamese child whose mother tried to jump from a navy ship with her yesterday as Malaysia forcibly deported a group of 126 boat people to Vietnam. The woman was restrained by police. PHOTOGRAPH: MEE FALIA

## Dissident speaks Hanoi's mind

The best-known inmate of Camp 5 has much in common now with those who keep him there. Keith Richburg reports

THE Vietnamese government views Pham Duc Kham, serving 12 years in prison for plotting a coup, as the most dangerous kind of counter-revolutionary.

But Mr Kham sounds anything but violent or radical. He expresses a fervent belief in democracy and argues that change must come gradually. He supports the communist government's economic liberalisation but wants political reform too.

Mr Kham, aged 64, was imprisoned in 1990 for circulating a newsletter advocating democracy. Vietnam's interior ministry allowed him to be interviewed this month. It was the first time a journalist had been allowed inside a prison to meet an inmate, and the first officially sanctioned interview with a known dissident.

Vietnamese officials apparently granted the request to counter criticism of their human rights record and secretive prison system.

The prison, Camp 5, was carved out of a French coffee plantation 49 years ago in a remote mountainous area of Thanh Hoa Province, about

150 miles south of Hanoi. The warden, Colonel Pham Huu Ninh, said the prison had about 1,000 inmates, mostly living five to a room.

All prisoners, except the elderly, are assigned to hard labour — farm work and mining in the mountains — six days a week.

Prisoners can watch television and receive newspapers and magazines. They are allowed visitors once every three months and married prisoners can have overnight conjugal visits.

Mr Kham, a former South Vietnamese army officer who was involved in an abortive 1962 coup against the president, Ngo Dinh Diem, is the best-known inmate here.

For more than half an hour, he answered questions about his past anti-government activities and Vietnam's political evolution. He emerged as a moderate man whose views on the need for steady progress to reform seem to echo the debate taking place openly in the top echelons of the Communist Party.

Mr Kham and others "were only saying in an embarrass-

ing, public way what Vietnamese officials are saying and believe privately", said Dinah PoKempner of Human Rights Watch/Asia. She and other observers see signs that Vietnam wants to begin resolving political cases, mainly because its leaders recognise that such matters are a sore point in a developing relationship with the US.

Six years ago, Mr Kham belonged to a small, loose circle of southern democracy advocates, led by an academic, Doan Viet Hoat, who expressed their ideas in a newsletter called Freedom Forum, which they circulated in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. Members of the group were quickly rounded up and charged with trying to overthrow the government.

Mr Hoat was sentenced to 15 years in prison, and is now in a remote prison near the

Laotian border. His wife, Tran Thi Thuc, has been denied a visa to visit him.

Mr Kham's 16-year sentence was reduced to 12. He has spent roughly a third of his life in prisons. After the unsuccessful 1962 coup, Mr Kham was jailed for nearly two years, until Mr Diem was overthrown and assassinated.

"I opposed the old regime. I could have benefited from it, but I opposed it because I believe in the ideals of freedom and democracy." When the North Vietnamese communists marched into Saigon in April 1975, Mr Kham was sent to "re-education" camp for 13 years.

After his release in 1988, communism started collapsing in eastern Europe. In Vietnam, the communist leadership under Nguyen Van Linh launched its own programme of liberalisation.

"I was ready to join that effort to renew the country," Mr Kham said.

He realised the newsletter would be a direct affront to Vietnam's leaders. Still, he insists his aim was never to overthrow the government but to promote peaceful change. "We only called for the implementation of democratisation," he said. "My activity was so limited." — Washington Post.

'I opposed the old regime. I could have benefited from it, but I believe in freedom and democracy'

## Government tensions reach crisis point in Phnom Penh

Nick Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

TENSION between former communists and royalists in Cambodia's coalition government turned into crisis yesterday as the second prime minister, Hun Sen, launched a bitter attack on his co-premier, Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Speaking on Phnom Penh radio, Mr Hun Sen blamed Prince Ranariddh for the army's failure to capture the border town of Pailin from the Khmer Rouge after months of fighting and heavy casualties.

Mr Hun Sen, of the once communist Cambodian People's Party (CPP), did not name the prince but referred to "a great storm" in March when Prince Ranariddh threatened to pull his royalist party FUNCINPEC out of the coalition, accusing the CPP of failing to honour power-sharing agreements. The threat had undermined military morale and performance, he said. "Because of it we have offered a great gift to the Khmer Rouge."

Mr Hun Sen added: "If they want to leave [the government], let them leave. But if they want to dissolve the government I will oppose it."

The broadcast escalated tension in the capital, which is already awash with rumours of troop manoeuvres involving units loyal to either party.

Mr Hun Sen insists his enemies are planning to kill him.

The political temperature started to rise at the weekend when Mr Hun Sen bluntly warned the royal family that he would resort to military force to block any move to dissolve the national assembly.

The CPP leader, Chea Sim, who returned to Cambodia yesterday after medical treatment abroad, has reportedly started moves to try to cool the situation.

But whatever happens, analysts say it will be difficult for the two prime ministers ever to return to a normal working relationship.

## Fraud and violence mar voting in fearful Bihar

Suzanne Goldenberg in Sultampur, Bihar

THE man dropped his voice to a whisper, his face showing his fear. "Kindly do me this favour. We need a police force. There is trouble here." Then he flashed the identity card of a party worker and vanished.

Voting at Hajipur polling booth No. 81 in the school in Sultampur village appeared orderly. Men queued quietly to collect their ballot papers before entering to vote. But none of them had their fingers stamped with the ink that would prevent them from voting again, and the presiding officer seemed unconcerned about the empty ballot box lying open on the porch.

Twenty constituencies in Bihar, situated north of the Ganges, voted in the second day of polling in India's general election yesterday. The last day of voting across the country for all but a handful of seats is May 7.

A few years ago, Bihar was notorious for the ease with

which it accepted known criminals as politicians and for the brazenness of its rigging. In 1990 around 40 members of the state legislative assembly had criminal records; 200 people were killed during campaigns for state assembly elections last year. Election commission officials in New Delhi declared nearly half the 54 seats in India's second most populous state "sensitive" or "hyper-sensitive", requiring outside security forces to keep order.

Yesterday, Bihar tried to shake off that reputation. It only partly succeeded. Seven of the eight people killed in election violence around the country during the day died in Bihar. The state election commissioner, R. J. M. Pillai, had received about 60 complaints of rigging by mid-afternoon. But that was "better than expected", he said. New Delhi ordered political parties and landlords to disband their private armies and sent 15,000 police and paramilitary forces to the state.

But there was still widespread evidence of vote fraud:

booths over-run by thugs from a particular party, children taking the places of legitimate voters, and ballot boxes with a few hundred papers inserted even before the polls opened.

In some polling booths in Hajipur, north of Patna, 50 per cent turnouts were claimed within two hours of the polls opening, against an official mid-afternoon average of 36 per cent. "Presiding officers don't even know how to seal a ballot box," said a man outside polling booth No. 38 in the town of Hajipur.

The Janata Janata Dal, which holds power in the state, and its main challenger, the Samata Party, both claim they are fighting for social justice for the poor. Both also appear to be rigging votes in their respective strongholds.

The presence of eight military police transformed Dumri polling station. Unlike most of the other polling booths of Bihar, Dumri was full of women who arrived in bright new saris to exercise their franchise and gossip with the other villagers.

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### News in brief

**Bonn rethinks refugee plan**  
Germany may have to rethink plans to start sending home 320,000 Bosnian refugees in July, Cornelia Schmalz-Jacobson, Bonn's ombudsman for foreigners' affairs said.

"Certainly, refugees should not wait until everything in the former Yugoslavia has been rebuilt by other people — but they should not be sent back to areas where aggression still reigns," Ms Schmalz-Jacobson told MDR radio.

Asked about the July 1 deadline, she said: "I think that will have to be looked at again." — Reuter.

**Israeli appeal**  
Yigal Amir, who killed Israel's prime minister Yitzhak Rabin last November, appealed against his conviction to the supreme court yesterday based on evidence that a second gunman may have been involved, his lawyer, Gabi Shahar, said in Jerusalem. — Reuter.

**Cafe to be razed**  
Tasmania's premier, Tony Rundle, announced in Hobart yesterday that his government would demolish the Port Arthur cafe where 20 of the 35 victims of the weekend shooting massacre died, on the wishes of the victims' family. — Reuter.

**Pupils fight fire**  
Mongolian schoolboys joined thousands of soldiers fighting bushfires whipped up across the steppes by high winds yesterday as the death toll caused by scores of fires rose to 19, with 60 injured. The fires have destroyed about 31,000 square miles of forests and pastureland. — Reuter.

**Oil deal 'close'**  
France's foreign minister, Hervé de Charette, said yesterday that Iraq was close to achieving a breakthrough in talks with the United Nations aimed at agreeing on a resumption of oil exports, which were cut off by the UN after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. — Reuter.

**Bardot urges ban**  
The former actress Brigitte Bardot, now an animal rights activist, yesterday urged Song Young Shik, who leads the campaign to stage the 2002 football World Cup in South Korea, to lobby the government for a ban on eating dogs. — Reuter.

**Climbing cleaners**  
Fifteen Nepali climbers carrying sacks will start to collect rubbish on Mount Everest next week, which has become known as the highest junkyard on earth. They will also try to bring down the bodies of dead climbers, said officials. — Reuter.

William Morris's name is synonymous with irretrievable nostalgia and a visionary utopianism. He was not just a wallpaper designer but a revolutionary socialist — a combination that might have been the invention of a satirist.

Deyan Sudjic, Review page 6

Tudjman st up campak stifle critic

But fights itself of legacy

AA

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# Tudjman steps up campaign to stifle critics

Julian Borger in Zagreb

THE Croatian government has intensified its campaign against critics in the press and local government, closing an independent newspaper and dissolving the opposition-led Zagreb city council less than a fortnight before the country formally joins the Council of Europe, a forum for the promotion of democracy and human rights.

Panorama, a weekly tabloid, was closed by the financial police. The official reason was violation of property and environmental laws, but the decision came only days after the newspaper printed a critical profile of President Franjo Tudjman.

Two days earlier, Zagreb's city council was dissolved, after being elected last year with an opposition majority. President Tudjman had already made it clear he would not surrender control of the capital, by vetoing — on "national security" grounds — four nominee mayors put forward by the opposition.

When the Council of Europe's assembly voted last week to admit Croatia despite its patchy human rights record, European diplomats in Zagreb said the move would strengthen Croatian moderates and increase Western leverage on the government.

But a United Nations human rights monitor said yesterday that the government's actions in the past few days demonstrated that Croatia's admittance had only served to weaken the West's influence.

The official added that when the council accepted Russia as a member in January, it forfeited grounds for denying membership to Croatia, whose human rights transgressions pale in comparison. Croatia's formal entry is due to be finalised by European officials meeting in Strasbourg in 10 days, but the Netherlands is arguing for a postponement, because of the

fragile state of the Balkan peace settlement. The Panorama closure comes less than a month after another independent newspaper, Novi List, was fined more than £1 million for allegedly evading customs duty on printing equipment. Its editors deny any wrongdoing.

The Tudjman government has also had a poor record on the treatment of minorities, in particular Serbs. Hundreds of Serb civilians were killed after the government stormed the separatist region of Krajina last year.

Human rights officials say about 20,000 Croatian Serbs, who fled during the offensive, have applied to resettle in their former homes, but only a handful have been allowed to return. There is little doubt that President Tudjman is personally involved in the campaign against dissent. He intervened repeatedly to veto opposition candidates for the post of Zagreb's mayor, saying opposition leadership in the capital would weaken Croatia. Political observers point out that once the liberal opposition controlled Zagreb city hall, it would be in a position to expose long-suspected corruption in the privatisation process.

Mr Tudjman appears to be drifting towards the far right, as next year's presidential elections approach. Last month he raised the possibility of repatriating the remains of Ante Pavelic, the leader of Croatia's pro-Nazi wartime regime.

European diplomats say the president, aged 74, is an increasing embarrassment to the rest of the government, which they describe as modernising and pro-Western.

One diplomat said Croatia's admission into the Council of Europe was an investment in the next generation of leaders, but with President Tudjman showing no intention of bowing out, a new, more democratic Croatia may take a long time to emerge.

● Bosnia has arrested two Muslims indicted by the UN war crimes tribunal for killing Serbs at a prison camp in 1992, the tribunal said yesterday. A tribunal spokesman named the two as Hazim Delic and Esad Landzo.

# France's efforts to qualify for the single European currency could provoke further industrial unrest

## Juppé orders ministers to make cuts

Paul Webster in Paris

THE French government decided yesterday to run the risk of a new wave of industrial unrest by slashing public spending to meet the budget criteria for the European single currency before 1999.

The prime minister, Alain Juppé, whose tough economic policies led to national strikes last autumn, called a surprise cabinet meeting to order ministers to make savings expected to reach £7.8 billion over the next 18 months.

Mr Juppé said he was determined to match the extent of budgetary sacrifices promised by the German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, and to meet President Jacques Chirac's

demands for "draconian" cuts. The move was seen as likely to anger public sector trade unions.

Last weekend Mr Chirac said a change of mentality on public spending had to be made either voluntarily or by force, abandoning his campaign commitment to increase government investment to reduce the 3 million unemployment rate.

Mr Juppé's office said yesterday's meeting was intended to produce urgent suggestions on cuts before parliament discusses immediate public expenditure savings later this month. The budget deficit, now about 5 per cent, has to be reduced to a maximum 3 per cent to meet conditions for joining a single currency.

"No figure has been fixed yet on eventual savings, but the effort needed to meet targets will mean cuts on a scale never seen before," an official said.

Since 1988, government outgoings have grown faster than the inflation rate under both Socialist and Gaullist-led cabinets, and this year's budget is already FF90 billion (about £4 billion) in the red. A presidential promise not to raise more taxes and an unexpectedly low growth rate will mean a huge savings effort during 1997 to meet the Maastricht target.

As the government has already been forced to restrict social security costs by raising extra levies and cutting health care and pensions, the most probable area of saving

will be the public sector wage bill and state-owned services like the railways. At the same time, Mr Juppé is under pressure to reduce employers' fixed social security charges in the hope of stimulating investment to create jobs.

But after the public sector strikes which brought public transport and other services to a standstill last autumn, the prime minister has to consider the effect of new protests on the government's shaky popularity.

The failure by trade unions to stage a joint May Day demonstration may have encouraged Mr Juppé's advisors to believe that worker unity shown last autumn will be difficult to revive. But the Communist-led CGT managed to assemble 30,000 marchers for

their Paris May Day demonstration and organise about 100 other protests elsewhere.

Mr Juppé also faces opposition to closer European political ties from some leaders of the Gaullist RPR movement who narrowly failed to overthrow the Maastricht treaty in the 1992 referendum.

Under the Maastricht treaty, European Union countries that want to be part of a single currency by January 1, 1999, must have a budget deficit of less than 3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) next year. France's budget deficit equalled 5 per cent of GDP in 1995. The government has pledged to reduce the gap to 4 per cent in 1996, but that may be optimistic given the weakness of the economy.



Alain Juppé: Running the risk of causing more strikes



Back in business... Admiral Viktor Patrushev stands in front of one of his vessels in Portsmouth yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

## School fights to rid itself of Curie legacy

Alister Doyle in Nogent-sur-Marne

FRENCH children returned to a nursery school yesterday after parents lost a new round in a battle to have it closed because of radioactive leaks linked to the work of Marie Curie, the Nobel laureate.

The nursery was built in 1989 on a site used by Curie for her pioneering experiments to extract radium, which was later used to treat cancer through radiotherapy. Curie herself died of radiation poisoning in 1934.

The school for children aged from three to six was closed in December after worryingly high levels of radon gas had been found seeping into the classrooms. It reopened after repairs to plug leaks from waste left by Curie's research into radium dumped under the building.

"Nogent-sur-Marne should be twinned with Chernobyl," said Dominique Neuville, whose son attends the school. "You can't let children go to school on a radioactive site. It should be closed."

Hervé Debaecker, an official at the local council, said: "Radon levels have fallen spectacularly. The school is safe." Mr Debaecker said radon levels were now well within those acceptable under European Union recommendations.

Most parents felt sufficiently reassured to let their children return after five months during which they had been farmed out in nearby schools. But some kept their children away, or handed out leaflets calling for the school to be shut. — Reuter.

## New Russian doll will be selling her soul

James Meek in Moscow

THE MAKERS of Barbie dolls can show all the material comforts of the Western world on their blonde creation — designer clothes, scuba equipment, ponies — but there is one thing they cannot miniaturise and mass-produce in plastic: the Russian soul.

Or so says the Moscow fashion designer Vyacheslav Zaitsev, who is set to launch a new Russian doll which he hopes will capture the hearts of the country's young girls.

If Mr Zaitsev had his way, Barbie and her playmate Ken would have their little visas cancelled and be put on the first plane west.

Describing Barbie as gaunt, Mr Zaitsev said she was "an absolutely cold, cynical, pragmatic creation, demonstrative of an obsession with sex."

He said his National Creative Council had chosen three under-nines from more than 15,000 young Russian girls as models for the new doll, Marusya. She would be chubby, cuddly, and come equipped with a soul.

It is not clear how Marusya will fare against the hugely popular Barbie, given that America's dolls, unlike Russia's, represent an aspiration to womanhood.

"It was very surprising for us when somebody brought dolls wearing national costume back from Czechoslovakia and we found breasts underneath. It was very interesting," recalled a woman who grew up in the 1970s.

## Refurbished navy makes presence felt

David Fairhall meets a Russian admiral anxious to calm Nato fears about his fleet

RUSSIA'S navy is back in business on the high seas — but on a much reduced scale, and as a potential ally of the West.

This was the signal metaphorically hoisted at Portsmouth yesterday by Admiral Viktor Patrushev, Russia's deputy chief of staff, as he sought to calm unease in Nato about the reappearance of his navy's hunter-killer submarines in the North Atlantic, once again lurking off British and American naval bases.

"The Atlantic is an open ocean for everybody," Adm Patrushev said, with a hint of the defiance with which Soviet admirals once challenged the supremacy of the United States navy.

But the admiral went on to outline plans for smaller naval forces initially dedicated to coastal defence and eager to co-operate with Nato on United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Adm Patrushev was in Portsmouth to take part in an unprecedented seagoing exercise off the Isle of Wight involving British, Russian and US warships jointly intercepting a merchant vessel

attempting to run a UN blockade.

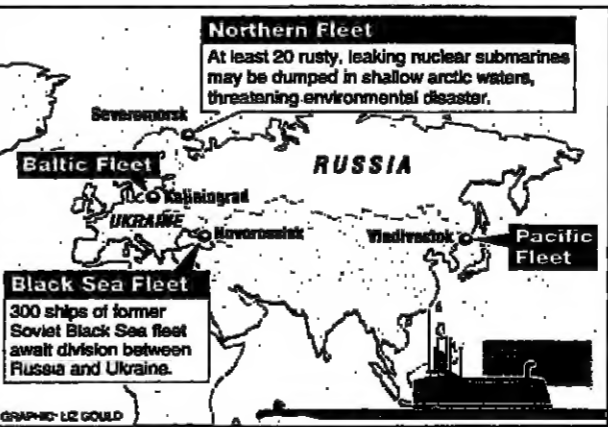
Asked if the navy now being reassembled from the wreckage of the vast Soviet fleet intends to establish a worldwide presence, the admiral said that was not a current objective.

"Russia will not have such a large fleet as in Soviet times," he said, through an interpreter.

In the first instance, the fleet would be devoted to defending Russia's national interests in adjacent waters.

As for the submarines recently discovered patrolling the British and US coasts, as well as the deployment in the Mediterranean earlier this year of the 67,000-ton aircraft-carrier Admiral Kuznetsov, the admiral said that all navies needed to train in the open sea, and to show the flag in traditional fashion.

However, after five years during which the main threat posed by the Russian navy seemed to be radioactive leakage from rusting nuclear hulks dumped in the Arctic, the detection last summer of a Russian submarine in the approaches to the US navy's Atlantic naval bases started



alarm bells ringing once again.

What worries Nato intelligence is the stealthy nature of the Russian visit — probably by one of the latest ultra-quiet Akula-class boats.

In February, a Russian Victor III submarine secretly shadowing a Nato exercise off north-west Scotland suddenly surfaced to call for medical assistance — something its captain would have been extremely reluctant to do in cold war days. A sick Russian sailor was taken by helicopter to Stornoway by the Royal Navy.

All navies tend to exaggerate the threats they face in order to squeeze resources

from tight-fisted national treasuries. And Nato submarines undoubtedly still pay occasional covert visits to naval exercises off Murmansk, just as the Russians were yet to be divided between Russia and Ukraine.

But the fact that the Russians — for all their financial problems — are still building a new submarine every nine months suggests they intend to maintain a powerful underwater force as the cutting edge of their future naval power. Britain and the US are building none.

The Russians have also salvaged the Admiral Kuznetsov, one of the three big aircraft-carriers which sym-

bolised the global challenges mounted by Admiral Sergei Gorskov, father of the Soviet navy.

This year, Russia celebrates the 300th anniversary of its navy, which was founded in the Baltic by Peter the Great. In its heyday in the 1980s, there were sometimes more Soviet ships patrolling the world's strategic sea lanes than there were Americans. Now, judging from Adm Patrushev's account, the cycle is quietly beginning again.

If so, his service faces horrendous problems caused by the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the collapse of its economy.

For example, years of negotiations have still failed to secure an agreement on the future of the Black Sea Fleet, where nearly 300 warships are yet to be divided between Russia and Ukraine.

Perhaps the most worrying long-term problem is the lack of sufficient facilities to decommission dozens of ageing nuclear-powered submarines now no longer wanted.

There are reports that at least 20 of them may simply be dumped in the shallow Barents Sea, where sooner or later their nuclear fuel could leach out to contaminate the fragile Arctic environment.

## Yeltsin plans to visit Chechnia before election

PRESIDENT Yeltsin told a local television station yesterday that he planned to visit Chechnia in mid-May and was prepared to meet rebel separatists, the Interfax news agency said.

"Russian President Boris Yeltsin confirmed his intention to go to the Chechen republic in mid-May," the agency said.

The report confirmed suggestions that Mr Yeltsin could make his first trip to Chechnia before the presidential election on June 16.

The president was quoted as saying: "Firstly, I have to thank the servicemen who have done a big job there, secondly to meet the elders, and thirdly give a boost to talks."

The new Chechen rebel leader, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, said on Wednesday he was ready for talks with Moscow — if Russian troops were withdrawn. The Russian Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, will meet German politicians including Chancellor Helmut Kohl's top lieutenant Wolfgang Schäuble when he visits Bonn next Monday to hear views on Russian policies, the German foreign policy society said. — Reuter.

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Britain rules the bytes

Moral: if you can't make computers, use them

PEOPLE in Britain have become so used to being told that they are among the least numerate and most under-educated inhabitants of the industrialised world that when they hear what sounds like a compliment the immediate reaction is to think that something has gone wrong.

(later swallowed by Olivetti) won the competition with a computer way ahead of its time which enjoyed well deserved success for a number of years (and is still with us). Sir Clive Sinclair's company — the first to produce a computer costing under £100 — briefly became the biggest producer of computers in the world.

The consolation prize was the spawning of a new generation of computer-literate kids badgering their parents to buy one for the home. Although computers in schools suffered from the Government's myopic financial retrenchment, the thirst for computers remained.

Why has Britain become the world leader? Step forward an unlikely heroine: Mrs Thatcher. It was the uncharacteristically interventionist Conservative government of the early 1980s which financed a computer for every secondary school while the BBC invited tenders for the construction of a state-of-the-art computer to spearhead Britain's technological advance.

The war they left behind them

Afghanistan needs rebuilding, not lectures from the West

AFGHANISTAN is a problem left over from history — recent history perhaps, but these days we forget very quickly. The grim reports now being shown on BBC Newsnight should jog memories and consciences. They describe a war which no one hopes to win yet which no one knows how to stop.

Pakistan's infamous Inter Services Intelligence — the very same ISI that funded the anti-Soviet mujaheddin which it is now fighting. There is no shortage of irony. Semi-secular Pakistan supports the ultra-fundamentalists: Shiite Iran backs the less extreme Kabul regime — because of the Sunni character of the Taliban. Ethnic divisions between Pashtuns and Tajiks complicate the picture.

Last month Washington launched what was called a rare diplomatic initiative to Kabul — like the faltering UN peace mission — it is a low-key effort. President Rabbani in Kabul says that the US should bring pressure on Pakistan to stop interfering. No doubt it should, but nothing will be achieved unless Afghanistan moves much higher on the international agenda.

A bishop's home is his palace

But should such critics of inner city poverty live in opulence?

THE TEXT for today is taken from the gospel of St John chapter XIV, verse 1: "In my Father's house are many mansions". One of them, sadly, is proving a little controversial. The new Bishop of Chelmsford John Perry is reported to be reluctant to move into the outgoing bishop's residence, Bishops Court, consisting of six bedrooms, three bathrooms, staff accommodation, three acres and the only episcopal residence with its own swimming pool.

to be worth nearly twice as much as the present £450,000 Bishops Court.

There is a case for a geographical switch on operational grounds. Bishops should be near their flocks and they need enough accommodation to perform the civic, hospitable and religious duties required by their office. As a result of an economy drive by the Church Commissioners, new standards state that a bishop's house should have six bedrooms, a meeting room for 30 people and dining facilities for 12. What a shame that the spur for downsizing the residences of bishops was forced by economic necessity rather than volunteered through moral leadership.

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Letters to the Editor

All change on the sex front

WHEN the European Court granted a transsexual employment protection against discrimination based on sex (Report, May 1) there is no "scientific" definition of race of any kind, whether on the basis of Mendelian genetics or any other system of methodical observation.

In the US, I served as an expert psychiatric witness in a federal court on behalf of a male transsexual airline pilot not permitted to continue flying after sex-change surgery. The pilot was denied protection under the nationwide law forbidding employment discrimination based on sex.

Under existing law, transsexuals were faced with an insurmountable hurdle when employers blocked such employment. Now UK patients, if not their counterparts in the US, will have greater opportunity to demonstrate whether the radical solution they seek to feeling trapped in the wrong body is truly in their best interests.

As a transsexual, I am cautiously optimistic about the European Court ruling. However, broader legal and social issues need to be addressed if the interests of transsexuals are to receive equal consideration with what most people rightly expect.

As a transsexual, I am cautiously optimistic about the European Court ruling. However, broader legal and social issues need to be addressed if the interests of transsexuals are to receive equal consideration with what most people rightly expect.

For example, a number of health authorities have removed sex-change operations from their list of NHS-funded operations on the grounds that they are cosmetic. This is a gross trivialisation of how transsexuals understand such procedures.

Furthermore, while shifts in public perception have taken place, society seems still inclined to treat us as jokes or circus freaks fit primarily for sleazy, late-night TV.

Fit for a king
WHY is Graham Brown (Letters, April 29) surprised that we should be seeking a tutor with knowledge of menswear? We run a successful fashion design course.

Let's all snigger at the back of the class. Truly, it is not lecturers in fashion design but the pseudo-sophisticated sneers of the likes of Mr Brown that undermine attempts to sustain serious vocational education.

THE catalogue for the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis sale will not, as you say, generate profit for Sotheby's: all profits are going to the John F Kennedy Foundation.

EVERYBODY seems to have missed the most stunning revelation made by Prince Edward on his television programme. The prince tells us that, because of Edward VIII's abdication, the future George VI was "literally catapulted on to the throne".

A race with no winners

FUNDAMENTAL point appears to have eluded the renewed controversy about race and intelligence (Letters, May 1). There is no "scientific" definition of race of any kind, whether on the basis of Mendelian genetics or any other system of methodical observation.

A hypothesis based on matching the vague notion of race to the tenuous one of intelligence is difficult to take seriously.

OF COURSE it is highly likely that some races are genetically predisposed to higher IQs. But some races seem eminently better 100-metre distance runners than others. With such physical differences between races and genders, why shouldn't there also be mental differences?



A quick look back in anger

AS a secondary-school music teacher of some 25 years' experience, I find unfortunate the sneering attitude often taken by correspondents such as Caroline Sullivan to the rock band Oasis (First night, April 29). I am so afflicted of popular culture, but if Ms Sullivan could control her condescension just temporarily, she might come to understand the reasons for their success.

Popular music, traditionally economical with musical content, has, over the past two decades, so often relied on visual and multi-tracked effects and tricks, almost eradicating musicality. Your correspondent

IN 23 years of classroom teaching and 11 years of research, I never met a child who achieved anything like his/her full potential. The limiting factors are largely social and have to do with opportunity, with family ambition, with motivation, and factors of this nature. I imagine that inner-city white and Afro-Caribbean children of poor families would be at the bottom of the pile.

MIGHT there be a genetic mechanism by which a person is more likely to acquire both the name "Steve" and a healthy disgust for such "scientific" arguments? Or is it simply that the "hard" scientific background of Steven Rose, Steve Jones and Stephen Jay Gould have led to an understanding of genetics, evolution and the biological development of organisms that has been lost on Messrs Lynn Murray, Brand etc?

IQ scientists who claim to discover racial IQ bias are blind to the obvious realities of multi-ethnic societies.

People manifest many aspects of intelligence, mutable and developed as required to negotiate diverse environments. IQ flourishes in academic calm; EQ (emotional intelligence) operates thousands of times faster than IQ and is vital to reading moods. PQ, or physical intelligence, is faster again.

AM I paranoid or is it just that a certain section of the white population has always been afraid of a challenging and enterprising new generation of blacks competing at the highest level and showing that they could be as good or better than others?

HELEN Goldberg's defence of the racist Christopher Brand appears to consist in the fact that none of his students believe a word he is saying. Shouldn't he then be sacked for incompetence? That's what we're told in stores for thousands of "incompetent" teachers.

Mane chance

WHAT has happened to Tony Blair's hair? We fawned over him as Bambl, but being lionised as the Lion King has gone to his head. Now it seems he's been persuaded he'd look better as Timb. Come on, Tony, shed your mane and your quiff: your boyish good looks are nothing to be ashamed of.

JOHN Prescott joining the middle class I can just about accept. But Jimmy Knapp writing as James Knapp (Letters, May 2) is pushing the borders of middle-class socialism beyond belief.

A Country Diary

NORTHUMBERLAND: With a bird enthusiasts' group, I have been busy in woodland clearing nest-boxes for winter storm damage. In the forestry, on one estate alone, there are 60 boxes and 200 in the woods in the Dilston area. The boxes are primarily used by pied flycatchers, blue tits, great tits and redstarts and, occasionally, owls. I am especially pleased to see the great tits, for several seasons a while ago we found nestlings dying of starvation which, according to the forester, was due to the extermination of their natural food by insecticides and tree-spraying.

Women's work is never done

PATRICIA Morgan (A time for women, April 29) points her gun at the wrong target. Poverty is a land which government has made tolerable to dwell in when it should be a vale of tears through which people pass as quickly as possible.

Throughout history women have reared large families whilst working away from home at some grinding, full-time job, as they still do in the Far East, Africa and South America. It's absurd to suggest that all these families are undermined by working mothers. On the contrary, they provide children with a good example to emulate.

IN our society, I know of one-parent families whose children are growing up well-behaved, respecting their working parent, and determined to contribute to the family budget by preparing themselves for a good job.

THE way forward is not, as Patricia Morgan implies, to step back to the 1950s, but to find a flexible system suited to the 1990s family. Personal allowances transferable either way between parents would be a start, allowing couples where one partner does not work to increase the family income by reducing its tax bill.

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Diary Matthew Norman

A FAX arrives from international playboy Andrew Neil. In announcing yesterday that the quest to find him a companion was over, it seems we were premature. "You are quite right to report..."

NOTHING, not even good news, can pierce the sunny good humour of Alastair Campbell. New Labour's very own Max Clifford. Emerging yesterday from seeing off Rupert Allason's libel writ...

RECENTLY returned from the Melbourne Flower Show, Terry Major-Ball sounds unworriedly most glad when I call. "I'm just a bit fed up," he confesses. "Things are a bit awkward in the political field and I'm conscious of not being able to help..."

MEANWHILE, the man Terry calls "young John" has a plan to make the streets safe by using electronic tagging devices on young thugs. Let us hope the technology has improved. A few years ago, Washington police became so sick of them going off by mistake that they gave up answering the alarms...

BRITISH GAS is in trouble again. It has upset Mrs Ruth Snell Rainbow Van Gogh, a customer in York, to whom it sent a letter beginning: "Dear Ms Snellrainbow-hallucinogenicexperience..."

THE Diary is intrigued to read of rocketing prices of salt blocks. No doubt the farmers will take care not to overfeed them to cattle, thus making the animals thirsty and certain to put on weight by drinking vast amounts of water. Coincidentally, EU compensation for slaughtered cows depends on their weight and is payable at the rate of one ecu per kilogram.



Double the trouble, double the riches

Commentary Peter Preston

I HAD been looking for something to read at my younger daughter's wedding. She thought that a half-hour ceremony entirely in Catalan, as provided by the Jolly Judge at Stages registry office, would sit a little heavy on visiting British brains.

Farmer has invented an entirely fresh literary form: the autobiography as anthology. Two Or The Book Of Twins And Doubles, from Virago this month at £20, is essentially a memoir of her relationship with her dead sister Judith. When you are still living in such a relationship, she writes, it is to define or understand as the air you breathe...

maker. And you can (like Elizabeth Bryan) be bang down to earth. "A child responds to discipline largely because he wants the love and respect of the person on whom he most depends. For most children that is the parent. But in the case of a twin the person whose respect and co-operation he most wants is by his side, egging him on to worse, and worse misdemeanours..."

Those of us who came solo into the world often seem almost the odd ones out. father? Or is that disastrous stereotyping for the future? Farmer has an episode for every eventuality and, in so collating, comes near the complexity of truth. I know that the undergrowth of relationships was thickly tangled. I sometimes fretted at the outside, I could barely begin to comprehend the wrench when, at 18, the girls together chose different universities and then, travelling in Asia, when one went on alone to Australia whilst the other picked Madrid. It was a severance of great courage.

It is not contempt for Europe that obliges us to smile at Rifkind's purported rejection of a federal supranational state. Surely the EU is a federal state, with a Supreme Court that tells parties to the constitution what they can or cannot do? Surely our inability to do anything effective over the beef crisis arises because we have given the federal state control of our British agriculture? Pointing out self-evident truths is not an act of loathing. It is necessary, even charitable, so that a power-

less functionary such as Douglas Hogg is not attacked unfairly. As for Malcolm Rifkind's view that it is "unnecessary as well as foolish to talk of some romanticised alter-ego for Britain outside the EU", it plainly is necessary to talk of ways in which we can better manage our beef, our fish and our money outside Europe, for each of these items has been damaged by the EU.

It is academic as to whether the Eurosceptics want some form of close relationship with Europe. Britain cannot forget Britain. Britain cannot avoid a close relationship with the European Union. Our geography forces this closeness. A trading nation of about 50 million people must have close trading and diplomatic ties with its neighbours. The question is not whether there should be a relationship but what sort of relationship it should be.

We do not hate Europe. We simply point out that in all that matters — language, history and geography — we are different. It is not malice but realism. A reflection on observation that forces us to denounce a single supranational state attempting an impossible convergence of economies, interests and people.

Nicholas Budgen is Conservative MP for Wolverhampton SW

Oasis and Blair ... together! 'Nuff said

Bel Littlejohn

LOVE 'EM to pieces. Oasis. I mean Five lads Gallagher and three others, all with their own different names — who, put together, make me wanna boogie. Managed to watch their gig last weekend at the Manchester City stadium, and what a great gig it turned out to be. With all of us singing our hearts out with the majestic Liam as he chanted that legendary Oasis chorus, with its subliminal references to Shakespeare, John Donne and Virginia Woolf. "No, Sally can't wait! She knows it's too late! She's da di di da-di-y-y"

WERE deeply privileged to be introduced to Noel, Liam and the three others just before they went on stage. Jack was the first to get a discussion going: "Might I just have a quick word with you, lads, about the dreadful pest that seems to me to be nibbling away at the very root of our society — namely Squeasie Merchants?"

There's so much energy and sheer unabashed, unadulterated vitality in youth culture. The young have got so much to say, so please, please, please let's listen to 'em. Janet Street-Porter, for instance: I'm always interested in what she's got to say; Vivienne Westwood ditto; and I've also got one helluva lot of time for Jimmy Savile. They're all remarkable role-models for young people. We in New Labour are desperate to channel some of this

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How xenophobic are the Tories? Nicholas Budgen rejects the criticisms of the Foreign Secretary, while (bottom) Julian Critchley sees doty extremism at work

Pride of place

BLOWS were exchanged in the Conservative Party. It was all part of the Government's habit of slapping both sides in order as it would put it, to keep the balance.

Ken Clarke said: "A lot of Eurosceptics would like to detach us from the Continent with which our wellbeing is inextricably linked. It would be isolationist if we followed the more extreme views. It might not be isolationist in intent but isolationism might be the consequence."

But this is not a true reflection of our views. There is no hatred of the European Union in pointing out that we are an island and that, unlike the rest of Europe, we have been fortunate in not having been conquered for a thousand years. There is no loathing in pointing out that our self-governing institutions in this country have been rather successful. They do not deliver happiness, security and wealth to all. They have failed

so far to deliver both perfect weather and an adequate rainfall. Yet in all serious objectives of a constitution, ours has been very successful. No armed revolution. No defeat. No hyper-inflation. An electoral system which provides both sensitiveness and stability. Respected partially independent groups such as the judges, the armed forces and the Bank of England. It's not hated but quiet pride which tells a Tory to be satisfied with things that work.

The fundamental differences between a Briton and the rest of Europe are most obvious to those who have studied other European countries most deeply. For instance, the Eurosceptics of an earlier generation were led and inspired by Enoch Powell. To him the 19th-century German philosophers had been a crucial influence. His friend Neil Martin had a French mother. The naive view that we are all the same comes most strongly from those who believe that Europe can become, in some vague and unexplained way, a United States of Europe.

and greyer minds, whose role is not to filter the views of the unrepresentative Tories who man the committee rooms but to simplify them. The floor of the annual party conference has brought its prejudices into Westminster.

With his sly/shy smile, John Redwood flouts his opposition to John Major. Michael Portillo (SI Sid, to his foes) taunts the foreigner.

Their political traditions go back no further than the corner shop in Grantham

while he is, half-Spanish. Forsyth burns the banner. Redwood and Portillo will contest the leadership of the party should we lose the election and, given the arithmetic, one or the other would be bound to win.

The Major government has been the target of much of the media, which have not been able to forgive him his victory '92. Teen-aged leader-writers on papers like the Times and the Telegraph volley and thunder, in the Telegraph it does not matter which Johnson we read, the message is the same. I wonder how poor Bill Deedes, once a Cabinet minister under Macmillan, regards his old paper, which he edited so long and with such distinction?

It is no fun being in a wheelchair but at least I no longer stand the 222 Committee or Tory backbenchers. At its best the committee could give rise to feelings of doubt; today it would give rise to feelings of despair. The Union Jack and the flag of Europe should share pride of place; at a time when the Eurosceptics have done more to damage our electoral prospects than either Blair or Ashdown, how pathetic it is that one of the few Scots Tory MPs, and the Secretary of State to boot, should have made so silly a gesture.

Sir Julian Critchley is still Conservative MP for Aldershot

Right wing of a different hue and cry

THE DECISION by Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland, not to fly the European flag from government buildings on Europe Day next week is as arrogant as it is foolish. Who the hell does he think he is? The Gauleiter of Scotland?

Forsyth was not promoted to Cabinet rank on grounds of ability; he was kicked upstairs to keep him out of mischief on the backbenches chief on the backbenches were, for so long, his natural home. His xenophobia is typical of the New Right within the Government and party, and stands in vivid contrast to Malcolm Rifkind's trust in Malcolm Rifkind's more generalised rebuke to those who, like Forsyth, blame the foreigner for everything from mad cows to the inclemency of our weather. Does he wish Britain to retaliate against Europe? If so, why not ban French wine, scent and cheeses?

John Redwood flouts his opposition to John Major. Michael Portillo (SI Sid, to his foes) taunts the foreigner.

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CLIMBING MOUNT IMPROBABLE Richard Dawkins 'The approach is exhilarating - a perfect, elegant riposte to a great deal of fuzzy thinking about natural selection and evolution ... intellectually uncompromising and immensely entertaining'

Lord Houghton of Sowerby

Helmman in stormy times

DOUGLAS Houghton, who has died aged 97, was one of the few survivors in parliament of the first world war...

After the war, Houghton returned to the Nottingham tax office which he had joined as a school-leaver of 16...

that they had a list of 120 MPs on their side and wanted a vote on this. Somehow their resolution was never put...

I once rashly asked Douglas for names of the "Guy Fawkes" gang. He said: "You know who they are. And I have got them written down."

But then in 1969 came the bombshell of In Place of Strife - another torment for the chairman and many others.



devastating pronouncement for the supporters of Wilson's proposals and the uproar sounded and resounded for several days...

electoral reform. He worked among many others on the Royal Commission on Standards of Conduct in Public Life (1974-75). Maybe Lord Nolan and a few others should read his report.

Douglas Houghton... Loyal and eloquent supporter of Harold Wilson but always his own man

Emile Habibi

The man who stayed in Haifa

EMILE Habibi chose an epitaph that will capture the central fact of his 78 years: "Stayed in Haifa" is to be engraved on his tombstone...

Habibi was perfectly placed to illuminate the permanent stability of the 800,000 Palestinians who live as a minority in the Jewish state...



Habibi... a fine writer, a communist, an MP for 19 years, and the first Arab writer to win the Nobel Prize

was a gift from an intransigent government - Yitzhak Shamir's Likud was in its final days in power - that the prize was an instrument of division...

Helene Cordet

Café society charmer

FRENCH women entertainers - Bardot, Caron, Signoret, Juliette Greco, Edwige Fenech - were exotic and enviable in the 1950s...



Cordet... never any evidence of romantic link with Duke of Edinburgh

French-based Greek exile, when they were toddlers. A brief marriage, at which Philip was best man, to an Oxford graduate in 1938 ended in swift divorce...

Birthdays

James Brown, singer, 63; Patsy Chapman, former editor, News of the World, 48; Betty Comden, playwright and screenwriter, 77; Kathy Cook, athlete, 36; Henry Cooper, boxer, 62; Ben Elton, comedian and writer, 37; Sir William Glock, pianist, music lecturer and critic, 88; Dr David Harrison, master, Selwyn College, Cambridge, 66; Mary Hopkin, singer, 46; John Lewis, jazz pianist, composer, 76; Prof Ruth Lister, social economist, 47; Eddie Lynden, Labour MP, 63; Sheila McKechnie, director, Consumers Association, 48; Sir Christopher MacRae, High Commissioner to Pakistan, 58; Randle Manwarling, poet, 84; Véronique Nicholson, fashion designer, 42; Peter Oosterhuis, golfer, 47; Edwin Russell, sculptor, 57; Pete Seeger, folk singer, 77; Norbert Singer, vice-chancellor, University of Greenwich, 48; Norman Tindall, illustrator, 73; Sandi Toksvig, comedian and writer, 38; Allan Wells, Olympic sprinter, 44.

Death Notices

Houghton, Douglas, Lord Houghton of Sowerby PC, died on 2nd May in his 97th year. Buried in his wife Vera, the Trade Unionist, in the cemetery at St. Andrew's Church, London EC1V 1L.

Jackdaw



Men theory

WATCHING my sister develop, however, has not elicited the same types of wondrous feelings I once had as a boy. As a matter of fact, it has been a terrifying experience.

start dating in 20 years), I'll tear him apart very slowly. What happened during this past decade that transformed me into the over-protective jerk that I despised in elementary and junior high school?

With these dilemmas, I thought I was in pretty bad shape. Then I looked at my dad and saw that I was not alone in my misery. I see him having the time of his life coping with the harsh reality that Charmaine, now 13, is seeing boys. I can't really imagine what it is like for him to see and fear teenage boys like us every day.

are not ones I would like to see associated with my sister. So I have come up with a theory as to why us men have this over-protective tendency.

End not nigh OF making end-of-books, there is no end. Whitaker's Books in Print, 1994, lists 130 books entitled The End Of...

Housework. Innocence. Insularity. Laissez-Faire. Marriage. Modernity. Motherhood. Philosophy. Punishment. Science. The Cold War (six titles), the Family. The Novel, the World. Time and Zionism - not to mention the most celebrated post-war exercises in Endism, Ideology and History.

Countdown THE "millennium problem" has amused computer buffs for years. Wall Street reports Barron's has twiggled that millions of dollars can be made from it.

terrifying. It's so firm and quiet, because like a true politician Eliot never apologises and he never explains.

Yolk... sibling problems I SPEAK of Arnold Schwarzenegger's purchase of a set of President Kennedy's golf clubs. Schwarzenegger's winning bid was \$772,500. James Barron, a New York Times reporter, calculated that this was 858 times more than Sotheby's estimate of what the clubs would bring.

working and drivers' licences and insurance policies could be cancelled because computer systems would think people haven't been born yet.

Excuse me The following is a collection of "actual excuse notes" from parents (including "spitting") from the Office of Educational Assessment at the University of Washington.

Tea time I SPEAK of Arnold Schwarzenegger's purchase of a set of President Kennedy's golf clubs. Schwarzenegger's winning bid was \$772,500. James Barron, a New York Times reporter, calculated that this was 858 times more than Sotheby's estimate of what the clubs would bring.

Desmond Christy Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4866; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page

I want to come back says Nadir, page 12

Labour faces a double whammy, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer  
Telephone: 0171-239-9610  
Fax: 0171-833-4456

# FinanceGuardian

City braced for selling wave after telecoms talks collapse and Government blocks power predators

## BT pricks merger bubble

Lisa Buckingham, Paul Murphy and Chris Harris

**F**EARS rose last night in the City that the "merger-mania" bubble, which has kept the London stock market at record highs over recent weeks, has burst following the after-hours announcement that the planned £33 billion merger between British Telecom and Cable & Wireless has been scrapped.

companies, National Power and PowerGen — effectively blocking potential bids by US predators.

BT shares were already 8p off yesterday at 352p, while C&W shares had risen 9p to 54p. In New York, traders reacted by slashing prices, with BT falling the equivalent of 9p and C&W the equivalent of 53p.

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quick to point the finger of blame at BT's senior executives. One substantial shareholder in both companies said: "The fact that BT has failed to deliver again doesn't say much very positive about its management."

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### Notebook

## Lost connection irks phone firms



Edited by Mark Milner

**L**ADY Thatcher once described the then Cabinet minister Lord Young, the former Cable & Wireless chairman, as a man who brought her solutions, not problems. Unfortunately, over the five months C&W and BT have been discussing an alliance they saw as a solution to a number of issues, all they found were problems.

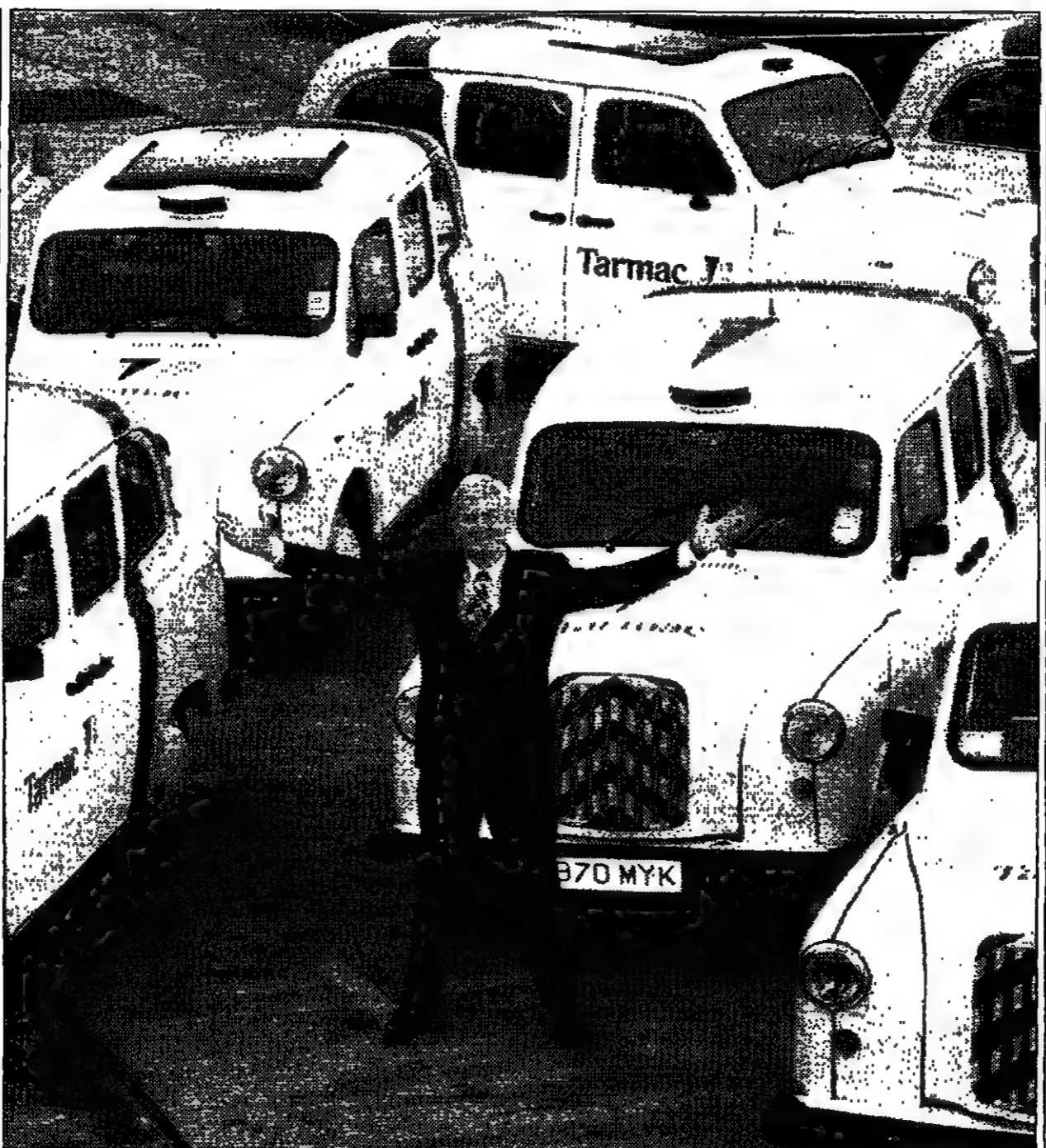
its intentions clear. Earlier this week, Mr Brown said money would have to be saved before it could be spent. This is wise, both politically and economically.

## Mines sell-off opens pension fund coffers

David Hencks  
Westminster Correspondent

**T**HE Government is to receive a £2 billion windfall — equivalent to a 1p cut in income tax — from taking over responsibility for British Coal's pension fund.

will go to the Government when the fund is wound up. The auditors are critical of cost overruns incurred by the appointment of privatisation advisers and of an agreement to pay a success fee of £2.5 million to the merchant bank Rothschilds, the main adviser, half-way through its four years' work.



Cab! Chief executive Neville Simms launches Tarmac's new corporate logo, replacing the 'brick wall' of Ts used since 1984. The reflective green and white T on a yellow background took identity consultants Sampson Tyrrell 18 months' work

The cash — which is identified in an analysis by accountants Binder Hamlyn for the NAO and agreed with the Government Actuary — will come too late to help Chancellor Kenneth Clarke with the next Budget.

The auditors say the DTT's coal privatisation unit was unaware that the ministry's Insolvency Service was investigating Tony Budge, chief executive of RJB Mining, which paid £215 million for the bulk of British Coal.

## Lang pulls plug on takeover binge

SIMON BEAVIS on belated moves to block the generation game

**T**HE Government tried to call a belated halt yesterday to the takeover binge that has overtaken the electricity sector in the run-up to the general election, by effectively blocking politically embarrassing bids for the generators, National Power and PowerGen.

quate competition in the generation and supply markets it will be prepared to consider whether to redeem the special shares. The announcement — which now moves bid speculation back to the six regional electricity companies not yet taken over — sent industry shares into a tailspin for the second time in a week, following last week's announcement by Mr Lang that he was blocking bids by National Power and PowerGen for two regional companies.

## Who's sending the letter bombs?

Sarah Whitebloom casts anxious glances at others attending the Barclays funfest

**T**HERE are only so many things that can be hidden in a handbag. Nevertheless, shareholders at Barclays' annual meeting yesterday searched as many as three times by legions of security guards, private security consultants and bank staff acting as bag inspectors.

was taking no chances. And no one at the meeting was objecting. If the bomber is — as many believe — an extremely disgruntled Barclays customer, he may well have decided to make his mark alongside the numerous protesters who have become a feature of the bank's annual meetings.

bank's "war of attrition" against its customers had given rise to the Mardi Gras bomber. For once, however, Safe's antics and accusations were overshadowed. For all anyone at the meeting knew, they were sitting next to the bomber. No one mentioned the ugly word. But there was a sharp intake of breath when an investor asked whether Barclays planned to compensate the aggrieved customers on the list it has given the police of people who may have a grudge against it.

Mr Buxton moved on swiftly to the next disgruntled customer.

## Guru takes a £19m pay cut

Patrick Donovan  
City Editor

**C**ITY investment guru Crispin Odey has lost his ranking as the third highest paid person in Britain after taking a salary cut of more than £19 million.

itably damage Harrow and Oxford-educated Mr Odey's reputation as one of the City's leading investors. Last year's results saw Mr Odey's earnings top those of people like rock musicians Elton John and Eric Clapton.

during the financial year but no detailed information is available about the investment activities, beyond confirmation that they are regulated by Imro and are related to the management of funds within Europe.

amounts ranging from £15,000 to £2 million. Mr Odey is perhaps the best known hedge fund manager in the City but others, such as Wall Street's George Soros or Julian Robertson of Tiger, are internationally acclaimed figures.

## Old Lady's personnel chief quits as outsider experiment founders

Larry Elliott  
Economics Editor

**T**HE Bank of England's experiment with an outside head of personnel ended abruptly yesterday with the news that Roy Lecky-Thompson is to leave after a troubled 18-month reign.

been trying to restore battered morale at the Bank since arriving last autumn and is said to have had different views about the future direction of personnel policy.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS			
Australia 1.8175	France 2.4650	Italy 2.285	Singapore 2.0475
Austria 15.50	Germany 2.2175	Japan 9.475	South Africa 6.31
Belgium 45.50	Greece 355.25	Netherlands 2.4650	Spain 184.00
Canada 1.9750	Hong Kong 11.24	New Zealand 2.11	Sweden 10.02
Cyprus 0.8855	India 51.65	Norway 9.58	Switzerland 1.750
Denmark 8.56	Ireland 0.9350	Portugal 228.50	Turkey 107.587
Finland 7.1650	Israel 4.78	Saudi Arabia 5.57	USA 1.4575

Supplied by Thomson Bank including India, Korea and Brazil (S&P)

Lobby group mines sarcastic vein of protest as it accuses RTZ of destroying Papuan tribesmen's ancient heritage

PROTESTERS drove a digger up to the headquarters of RTZ in St James Square, London yesterday to demand that the world's biggest mining firm stop investing in a mine in the Indonesian-occupied part of New Guinea.



Blair to face double whammy on tax

TONY Blair's New Labour, if elected to government, will be plunged straight into the dilemma of tax increases and interest rate rises by an economic mini-boom and weak public finances, a leading academic says today.

the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke's panel of independent advisers. In an article published by the London Business School, the director of the Centre for Economic Forecasting warns that Labour's chancellor — likely to be Gordon Brown — would face tough decisions on taxes and public spending.

year compared to a Budget forecast of £29 billion, believed to be due to lower-than-expected tax receipts. The Treasury is still investigating the shortfall in tax revenue which could cause further overshoots.

The General Election must be held by May 1997 and the LBS forecasts, the UK economy will have strengthened considerably by then. It predicts a growth in national output of 4.2 per cent in 1997, compared with 2.4 per cent this year.

chester Business School that Labour would not be the party of high spending. He would look to shave money from the public finances through more efficiency cuts, following on from the Conservatives' drive to save and save again.

Labour's cautiously-framed plans for a national minimum wage, fearing the cost and pointing to the possible damage to employment. The LBS report says Labour would have to be careful not to trigger inflation.

The honest route would be to hold down public spending, keeping to the kind of outlay that the Conservatives have made, creating the possibility of future relaxation of spending. Otherwise, the only option would be to bite the bullet and raise tax revenue in some way.

Rapid American growth rattles bond markets

ODDS on a summer rise in US interest rates, shortened yesterday after Wall Street took fright at an unexpectedly strong surge in American growth in the first quarter of this year.

The White House was quick to crow about the latest figures. Laura Tyson, head of the National Economic Council, said that strong GDP growth was "more evidence of the president's economic strategy paying off".

spending, particularly for computer products, and in business investment. The bond market, always nervous at any sign of unsustainable growth, reacted negatively to yesterday's economic data.

which is now looking at Fed tightening, not at its next meeting this month, but possibly at its July meeting. Following weak economic growth in the final three months of last year, there was a flurry of concern that the economy might tip into recession.

product's 2.8 per cent growth rate in the first quarter was the strongest showing since a 3.6 per cent increase in the July-September period last year. In other signs of robust growth, orders to US factories rose 1.3 per cent in March.

Management said that its manufacturing index rose to 50.1 per cent last month, the first time since last July it has been above 50 per cent. While first quarter growth exceeded the Wall Street forecasts, most economists believe that the economy will slow down later in the year in response to the recent jump in long term interest rates and to anticipated Fed tightening.

News in brief

Body Shop bruised but still bountiful

BODY Shop's US operation slipped into loss last year and the company is struggling against tough competition which has eaten into sales, but yesterday the company, which recently abandoned plans to leave the stock market, pleased investors with a 55 per cent increase in the final dividend.

Vote out Tories and I'll come back, says Nadir

TONY MAY hears party benefactor look forward to a change of power

FUGITIVE tycoon Asil Nadir said yesterday that he intended to return to Britain if there was a change of government and the people handling his case were removed. He said: "No regulatory authority and no government is in power for ever. Thank God there is a certain amount of democratic election and we know the elections are approaching. I hope the British public will give their view of what they think of the British Government."

Conservatives, Mr Nadir said: "I never regret anything that I have done in my life. All I regret is having trusted the authorities." He was speaking during a five radio link-up between his office in Northern Cyprus and studios in London to help promote a book published this week by his former aide, Elizabeth Forsyth.



Fugitive... Nadir's only regret is 'having trusted authorities' PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARLES

"I wanted to give evidence at Mrs Forsyth's trial by video link but was prevented. I could not return after seeing the way the authorities have behaved."

was her choice to go back expecting a fair trial. "I intend to bring an action in Britain for abuse of legal process — we have excellent grounds."

thing myself from the administrators of Polly Peck but I am now helping with the running of some of those assets."

Brussels beef ban forces Unilever to dump £15m of Birds Eye burgers

PUBLIC concern about "mad cow disease" forced Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer products group, to write off about £15 million against its frozen British beef foods in the first quarter of the year.

charge after the Government said on March 20 that bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) might be linked to a rare and incurable brain disorder in humans, and the European Union banned sales of British beef.

Without the BSE scare, Unilever's profits in the European frozen foods category would have been flat.

Overall, the group — whose products range from Persil detergent to Calvin Klein perfume and Magnum ice-cream — said net profit rose 3 per cent to £253 million in the first quarter, less than expected. Apart from the BSE scare, it blamed increased tax and interest payments.

Klein products. But it was held back by continued difficulties with the Elizabeth Arden personal care business. Sales of European detergents were low but profits rose because of higher pricing and lower production costs.

Kwik Save goes back to basics after profits slide

Roger Coove

DISCOUNT supermarket chain Kwik Save has begun a fundamental re-examination of its business after a slide in profits yesterday saw more than £60 million wiped off the company's stock market value.

It is aimed at working out how to make the low-price formula work, but Mr Bowler said that strategy was not sacrosanct. "Nothing is ruled out. We want a format which will work after the year 2000. We don't want to have to be catching up."

Because we have almost 1,000 stores there aren't many locations where people might open that there isn't one of our stores," Mr Bowler said.

Fierce competition has depressed price increases, resulting in lower profit margins. Profits for the first half of the financial year fell by 29 per cent to £44 million.

The 8 per cent rise in sales to £1.8 billion came from new stores and inflation, as well as the addition of the Scottish chain Shoprite. Sales volume fell by 2.5 per cent in the six months.

In recent weeks the situation has improved, but sales volumes remain only at the same level as last year. The company said margins would continue to be squeezed and profits would be down again in the second half of the year.

Grid unabashed by HSBC

NATIONAL Grid last night said it was happy about a 12.5 per cent holding in its shares built up by HSBC James Capel in association with Saudi-controlled Olayan. It dropped a broad hint that it had accepted assurances by James Capel that the broker retains control over the shares, promising to issue a full statement shortly.

Ashley scents success

LAURA Ashley has teamed up with cosmetics company L'Oréal to introduce a range of perfumes and toiletries under the Laura Ashley name. As well as being available through the clothing and furnishing chain's shops, the products will be distributed worldwide by L'Oréal.

Hanson sells Seven Seas

HANSON has sold its Seven Seas vitamins business to German-based chemicals group Merck for £150 million. The British conglomerate acquired Seven Seas as part of its Imperial Group acquisition in 1986 and held on to the vitamins operation while most of the group was sold. It was said to remain a personal interest of chairman Lord Hanson, and is being sold in the clear-out before the group's four-way split later this year. The Hull-based unit had sales last year of £59 million.

Scottish Hydro steams south

SCOTTISH Hydro-Electric is to build a £26 million combined heat and power plant in Kent. The group said that it would own and operate the 52 megawatt plant, which will be located at the Smurfit Townsend Hook paper mill. The plant will take its investment commitment in combined heat and power plant to more than £100 million. The company said that the investment in the new plant would satisfy the mill's energy requirements in the form of electricity and steam for the next 20 years. It will also deliver about 30 MW to other customers.

£800m for Indosuez stake

FRNCH bank Credit Agricole said it was paying 6.3 billion francs (£900 million) for a 51 per cent stake in Banque Indosuez bought from the financial and industrial holding group Compagnie de Suez. Credit Agricole has the option to increase this stake to 80 per cent from July 1, 1997. Suez said it could be sold to Credit Agricole. Indosuez was valued at FF11,850 billion on the basis of its 1995 accounts, the companies said.

Harris tweed firm crashes

ONE of the leading makers of Harris tweed has gone into liquidation, with rates arrears of £20,000 and losses of more than £500,000. Lewis and Harris Textiles, based in Stornoway, employed 20 people on Lewis until it ceased commercial operations early this year. An interim liquidator was appointed yesterday. At its peak the company, set up in 1991, was producing 25 per cent of the Harris tweed industry's output. Western Isles council was granted a petition at Stornoway sheriff court in an attempt to recover the rates, according to the liquidator, Ernst and Young.

Friday May 3 1996  
police  
rbiting

Sedgefield (N.H.) tonight

Table listing race details for Sedgefield (N.H.) including race numbers, names, and times.

Table listing race details for Bangor (N.H.) including race numbers, names, and times.

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Racing  
Godolphin  
test water  
with Love

THE Newmarket Guineas meeting starts today when principal interest will centre on the first Godolphin runners of the season.

Golden Touch (4.15), from the in-form stable of Neville Callaghan, carries no penalty for victory in a girls' apprentice race at Kempton on Monday.



Club class... Riyadani has strong claims in the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket today

Golden Touch (4.15), from the in-form stable of Neville Callaghan, carries no penalty for victory in a girls' apprentice race at Kempton on Monday.

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Prize money cut a sign of the times

OWING to falling betting turnover as a result of the National Lottery and scratch-cards, the Horseracing Levy Board has announced a 4.7 per cent cut in prize money next year.

Hamilton runners and riders

Table listing race details for Hamilton including race numbers, names, and times.

Newton Abbot National Hunt card

Table listing race details for Newton Abbot National Hunt including race numbers, names, and times.

5.55 SOUTH WEST HUNTLEIGH HURDLE STAKES

Table listing race details for 5.55 South West Huntleigh Hurdle Stakes including race numbers, names, and times.

4.40 WESTCOUNTRY TELEVISION HURDLE STAKES

Table listing race details for 4.40 Westcountry Television Hurdle Stakes including race numbers, names, and times.

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Table listing race details for 4.40 Westcountry Television Hurdle Stakes including race numbers, names, and times.

SPORTS NEWS 13

Newmarket with TV form

Table listing TV form for Newmarket including race numbers, names, and times.

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Blinkered first time: HAMILTON 5.00 Forest Boy. SEDGEBELD 6.30 Chummy's Saga. 2nd Wind Force.

2500

RACELINE logo with phone number 0930 1684 and commentary details.

Soccer

Premiership: Leeds Utd 1, Tottenham 3

Anderton lifts Spurs' Euro hopes

Michael Walker

DARREN Anderton, playing his third game since recovering from the injury that has ruined his season, scored two excellent goals that will give Tottenham hope...



Flight of fancy... Peter Beardsley's first-half strike gave Newcastle United early hopes of victory before Ian Woan's spectacular equaliser for Nottingham Forest at the City Ground last night

Chase quits after bumpy Norwich ride

John Duncan

ROBERT CHASE finally bowed to the inevitable yesterday and resigned as chairman of Norwich City, ending a bumpy 12 months in which he had been accused by supporters of caring more about bricks and mortar than about the football team...

Peter Swales dies at 63

PHOTOGRAPH BY GRIFFIN CHADWICK

PETER SWALES, the former Manchester City chairman, died suddenly yesterday in Wythenshawe Hospital aged 63. He had a heart attack last weekend but was thought to be improving before suffering two more...



Swales... heart attacks

Fast-recovering Shearer is set to go on England's Far East tour

ALAN SHEARER expects to resume light training today, only two weeks after undergoing a groin operation. The Blackburn striker has made an "excellent recovery", say his club...

Walter Smith has been fined £200 and warned by the Scottish FA about his future conduct because of comments he made after a Premier Division game at Motherwell...

Whyte waits in Scotland's wings

Patrick Glenn

DERRER WHYTE will spend the weeks between now and Euro '96 wondering whether he will be upgraded from understudy to leading man in the Scotland defence...

departure for the games against the United States in Hartford, Connecticut and Colombia in Miami. If, as hoped, McLaren requires only the straightforward removal of a simple cyst from his cartilage, he should be ready to face Holland, England and Switzerland in Group A in June...

because Eoin only played one of the qualifiers, said Brown. "He had a hard time with injury and loss of form and missed out quite a bit. Jacobson has been with us throughout and played a little more recently..."

Don't forget, we have quite a few similar types to Jess, playmakers such as Gary McAllister, Paul McCarty, John Collins and Billy McKelvey. There are seven midfielders in there...

Rugby Union

Wasps swoop for Griffiths

Robert Armstrong

THE drain of Welsh players to English clubs continued yesterday when Wasps signed Mike Griffiths, the Cardiff and Wales prop, on a three-year contract worth about £200,000...

up his job as a brewery sales representative. Rob Smith, Wasps' coach, regards him as a regular first-team choice for Cardiff...

Heineken League: Treorchy 10, Cardiff 31

David Plummer

CARDIFF returned to the top of the First Division with a laboured victory over lowly Treorchy last night and they will need to show more polish and poise in their final two matches...

Instead of building on that lead, Cardiff were constantly penalised by the referee Clayton Thomas and the home side took advantage to steal the lead a minute before half-time when the No. 8 Kevin Jones charged over from a quickly taken penalty...

Results

Soccer

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Tottenham (2) 2, Wimbledon (1) 0, Manchester (1) 0, Arsenal (1) 1, Newcastle (1) 1, Wigan 7, Bolton 28/20

Rugby Union

HURLEY NATIONAL LEAGUE: First Division: Treorchy 10, Cardiff 31

Golf

ITALIAN OPEN (Florence) First round: (54) Sergio Garcia (Spain) 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

Tennis

ATP TOURNAIMENT (Munich) Second round: (2) Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; (1) Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE Boston 5 Detroit 1, Cleveland 4 Chicago 3 Toronto 0, New York 3 Minnesota 5 Kansas City 5, Houston 3

Table Tennis

EUROPEAN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP (Bratislava) First round: (1) Petr Korbel (Czech Republic) 4-0, 4-0, 4-0

Boxing

Nigel Benn challenges Dublin's Steve Collins for the WBO super-middleweight title at Manchester's 21,000-seat Nynex Arena on Saturday July 8

Rugby League

South Africa have been promised financial help from the Rugby Football Union, so long as they come up with a viable development plan

Equestrianism

David O'Connor on Custom Made held the early lead for the United States after the first half of the dressage tests at the Badminton Horse Trials

Hockey

The Humberside Hawks have been reincarnated as the Kingston Hawks, writes Vic Batchelder

Cricket

News and Scores 0891 22 88+

Table with 3 columns: County, Runs, Overs. Includes Derbyshire, Durham, Essex, Gloucestershire, Glamorgan, Hampshire, Kent, Leics, Lancs, Middlesex, Northants, Nottingham, Somerset, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Yorkshire.

England Internationals follow the team throughout the year. Live Commentary 0891 22 88 28. Match Reports 0891 22 88 29

Sport

Call cost 33p/min cheap rate, 49p/min at all other times. Supplied by IMS, 16 Mark Lane, Leeds LS1 8LS. Helpline 011 71 717

RFU close to a deal with clubs

TONY HALLETT, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union, said last night that Twickenham was on the verge of reaching an agreement with England's leading clubs over the structure for next season and television and players' contracts...

Handwritten signature: J.P. 10/5/96

Table Tennis

Sweden rule Europe again

JAN-OVE WALDNER, the Olympic champion thought too old to defend his title successfully in Atlanta, answered his detractors yesterday by saving five match points against the 1993 world champion Jean-Philippe Gatien...

Retirement

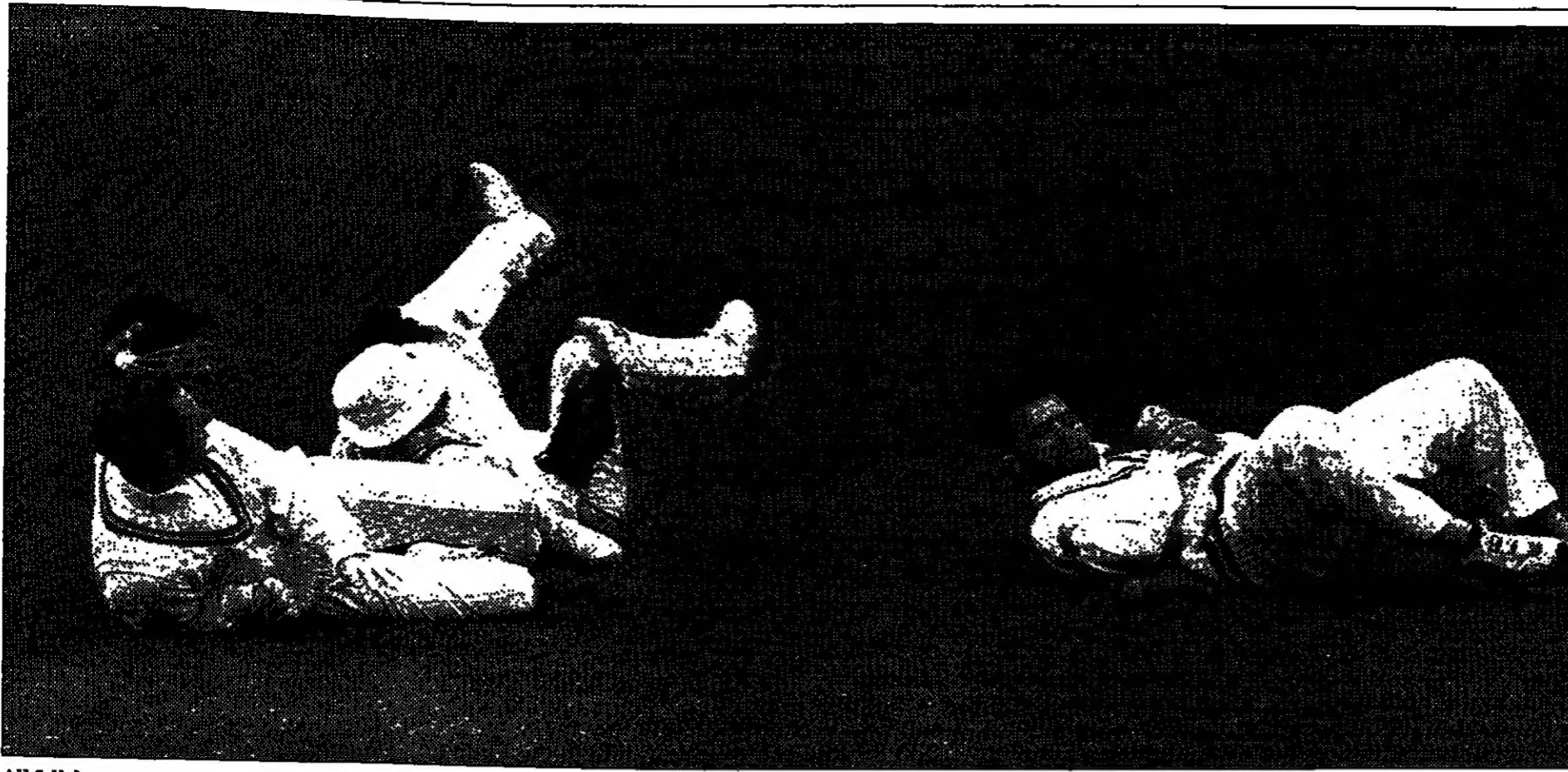
Waldner and Jorgen Persson, the 1991 world champion, won the doubles and look spritely enough to regain the world title from China in Manchester next year...

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FOOTBALL LIVES HOME

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All fall down... Gloucestershire's Richard Davis, Jack Russell and Tony Wright combine to drop John Carr off his first ball at chilly Lord's yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

County Championship: Middlesex v Gloucestershire

# Brass monkeys escort debs to the ball

**Mike Selvey at Lord's**  
WITH John Embury gone, Dion Nash in the Caribbean, Phil Tufnell and Richard Johnson on the sick list, and so many debutants in the side that it was a wonder the game had not been rescheduled for Berkeley Square, Middlesex looked a team in transition yesterday.

Having been second in the championship last year, pushing Warwickshire to the wire, they are already out of the Benson and Hedges Cup this year, and for the first part of the opening day of their championship campaign it seemed that their confidence might be shattered by Gloucestershire as they were bowled out for 200.

Instead, by the time the teams trooped off when the light finally closed in with seven overs remaining, it was Mike Gatting's side who just held the upper hand, with Gloucestershire 94 for four in reply, although Andrew Symonds, 42, not out from 40 balls, will present a threat to that position this morning.

It was typically early-season cricket, played on a sappy pitch - located within a handaxe of the Mound Stand - that helped the seam bowlers throughout the day, and batsmen on both sides found life anything but a bed of spring primroses.

Nor did the weather and general ambience help: although the rain somehow missed St John's Wood, it was so finger-numbingly cold and the banks of empty white seats so Arctic in appearance that when Gatting and Jack Russell reached the middle to toss, it would have been no surprise to find that a Norwegian had beaten them to it and planted a flag on a length.

All day, hands left pockets only to bowl or, reluctantly, field, and with hypothermia a worry it is hard to get motivated in such conditions. Gatting, whose body's rate of expansion is now starting to mirror the origin of the universe (his sponsored car is a Space Wagon, honestly), chose to bat first. But no one adequately mastered an enthusiastic Gloucestershire attack led by the old stager Kevin Cooper, still malevolently snaking his way swing. He took four for 54,

Worcestershire v Essex

# Frozen points

David Hopps at New Road

**C**RICKET's big kick-off - or rather it wasn't. If sport has largely given way to outrageous hype, the start of the championship season is still launched with a vaguely abashed air.

By twenty to two, the waiting was over. Essex's fielders trudged, pinch-featured, on to the outfield to the spirited applause of three elderly spectators wrapped in blankets.

# Yorkshire openers find record form

Paul Weaver at Canterbury

**I**T TOOK bad light to end Glamorgan's misery yesterday after Martyn Moxon, who made 150, and Michael Vaughan, whose 156 was a career best, broke a Yorkshire batting record at Cardiff. They reached 316 without loss, beating the previous best opening stand against Glamorgan of 235 scored by Percy Hoobson and Herbert Sutcliffe at Sheffield 66 years ago.

Kent v Lancashire

# Pinch-hitter Fleming falls victim to Jayasuriya Fever

Paul Weaver at Canterbury

**A**NUMBER of batsmen are now in danger of contracting Jayasuriya Fever, an affliction once confined to the humidity of Sri Lanka and characterised by hot-headedness, a whirling bat and an inability to recognise either line or length.

Even in damp, cold Canterbury cases are not unknown; Matthew Fleming was the victim yesterday, and by end of the season several more opening batsmen are expected to have perished. The fever is of course named after the Sri Lanka batsman Sanath Jayasuriya, the "pinch-hitter" who scored 137 in the World Cup, and a whirling bat and an inability to recognise either line or length.

Up his deliveries has made him handy at the death. He has even been talked of as a future captain in the Royal Green Jackets, and such things go a long way in these parts. Yet to invite him to open a championship innings, and against an attack as powerful as Lancashire's, was a little optimistic.

Somerset v Surrey

# Early retirement for Thorpe

David Foot at Taunton

**G**RAHAM THORPE returned from hospital last night to report that his right forearm was badly bruised but not, as feared, broken. He is willing to bat again for Surrey today if necessary.

creamed a boundary through the covers. Soon afterwards he ducked into a delivery from Andre van Troost and was in a lot of pain. It was a damp wicket on which neither side would have chosen to bat, Somerset, who won the toss, were with Andy Caddick, being out after some slight reaction to his back problems after a quietly impressive first competitive match of the season earlier in the week at Cardiff. But their experimental new-ball attack of Kevin Shine and Van Troost was fast and at times awkward.

# Scoreboard

BRITANNIA ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP	
GLAMORGAN v YORKSHIRE	
David Hopps	150
Michael Vaughan	156
Worcestershire v Essex	
Kevin Cooper	42
Somerset v Surrey	
Kevin Shine	15
Andre van Troost	15
Kent v Lancashire	
Matthew Fleming	137
Other matches	
Gloucestershire v Middlesex	94
Worcestershire v Essex	200
Somerset v Surrey	116
Kent v Lancashire	234
Gloucestershire v Middlesex	200
Worcestershire v Essex	200
Somerset v Surrey	116
Kent v Lancashire	234

# Motor Racing

## Hill still high on confidence

Alan Henry at Imola

**D**AMON HILL is convinced he will pick up the threads of his winning ways when he returns to the San Marino Grand Prix starts here today at the beginning of a weekend tinged by memories of Ayrton Senna, who crashed fatally while leading the early stages of this race two years ago.

# Golf

## Local hero takes first blood in the duel with Torrance

Michael Britten in Bergamo

**I**T WAS round one to Costantino Rocca in the contest Italy has billed as "Il duello stellare" when the Italian Open began here in his home town yesterday.

# The Royal Meeting

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Wakefield 976

**Sport**  
© The Guardian

Chairman Chase bows out at Norwich, page 14  
Spurs keep Europe hopes alive, page 14

O'Sullivan suffers in early frames, page 15  
Yorkshire openers make hay, page 15

# SportsGuardian

ENGLAND'S NEW COACH PUTS AN END TO THE AGONY



Flash company... Hoddle and Venables perform before the massed ranks of the press photographers in London yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

Terry Venables's successor passes his first encounter with the press with flying colours. **Martin Thorpe reports**

## Hoddle takes it in his stride

**A** PHOTOGRAPHER had to ask him to smile, but that could not disguise the fact that Glenn Hoddle was a happy man yesterday afternoon as he was unveiled as England's next coach.

After 48 hours of agonising over whether to leave Chelsea, Hoddle decided to accept the FA's offer on Wednesday night. It had been a heart-rending two days, he said, and "it was the only job I would leave Chelsea for". But leading England was "a privilege and an honour and a

burning ambition since a very young age. It is the pinnacle of any management career and the timing was right".

So Hoddle will take over from Terry Venables on July 1, tied to a four-year contract worth a reputed £250,000 a year. His first priority is to lead England to the 1998 World Cup finals, with the opening qualifier on September 1.

Yesterday's rapid fire of cameras and questions gave him a taste of the other scrutiny to come as he sat flanked by Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, and Venables. But the heir apparent handed it all with the air of a man practised in the art of saying something but not a lot. He promised to continue the chesboard soccer which split opinion after the Croatia game, butted away suggestions that at 38 he was too inexperienced, said it was too early to announce his backroom staff and vowed to keep out of Venables's hair during Euro '96. He will not attend England training before that showpiece; neither will he accompany the squad on their Far East tour in three weeks. His immediate tasks include a sentimental farewell to Stamford Bridge at his final Chelsea game on Sunday, choosing his international coaching lieutenants, and scouting teams ahead of those World Cup qualifiers.

Kelly summed up the qualities that had so impressed the FA: "He believes in intelligent players, raising the sophistication levels of English players, and playing the same system through all international levels so players can fit in easily when they are promoted."

Hoddle accepted that a full appreciation of his playing

style would not come easily. "To be appreciated I've got to be successful and play in a manner that's close to my heart and the public's."

"England's last two performances were superb but sometimes I think we admire what happens across the Channel but people raise eyebrows when someone tries to implement it at home. I feel that Terry is on the right lines. I feel that is the correct way to play and that the public will take it on board when we win matches."

When asked about his relative inexperience he sounded worldly-wise. "Sometimes experience is judged by grey hairs, but that is not necessarily right."

As for the media pressure, "at the end of the day I decided it wouldn't be a reason to turn down the job".

But already there is a major rumour in the making. An angry Chelsea chairman Ken Bates thought it had enough that the FA approached Hoddle on Monday before they spoke to Chelsea. But in fact Kelly revealed yesterday that the FA's technical adviser Jimmy Armfield had actually first spoken to Hoddle "some time ago".

The Chelsea director Matthew Harding felt the loss of Hoddle in a more personal

Premiership: Nottm Forest 1 Newcastle 1

## Newcastle title hopes fade after Woan strike

David Lacey

**A** LEFT-FOOT shot from 25 yards from Ian Woan struck deep at the heart of Newcastle's lingering championship ambitions at the City Ground last night after a masterly goal from Peter Beardsley had given Manchester United's pursuers a half-time lead.

Kevin Keegan's Monday-night rant at Leeds having been embodied in Sky's pre-match hype, his players had to demonstrate that actions spoke even louder than their manager's words. No easy matter.

Tiredness had been in evidence as Newcastle clung to their 1-0 lead at Eiland Road. That had been their fourth win in five games but the strain was showing among their players even before Keegan went off at the deep end about Alex Ferguson's attempts to psyche up Leeds.

Keegan swallowed a bit of pride last night by dropping Asprilla, his £7 million Colombian, who had looked jaded at Leeds. This meant that, with Ginola bank from suspension and Gillespie keeping his place, Newcastle regained the balance on the wings so crucial to their initial championship challenge.

Forest kept faith with Sunday's side maulled by Manchester United restored Roy to the centre of their attack, with Woan resuming duties on the left side of midfield. Their early attacks nibbled at the fringes of the Newcastle defence and the visitors needed to raise the pace of the game to break up the relaxed rhythm of Forest's passing.

Asprilla's absence meant that Beardsley was able to retain much closer links with Ferdinand, but for a time Newcastle were denied possession.

After 11 minutes they all but fell behind. Crossley's clearance was headed on by Lee and as it dropped Peacock impeded the advancing Hislop. Roy toe-poked the ball a yard off target.

At Eiland Road, Newcastle had seen Leeds hit bar and post in the opening quarter-hour and had then immediately scored what proved to be the winning goal. Forest, however, were looking less vulnerable than they had ultimately proved to be at Old Trafford.

The service to Ferdinand

looked likely to improve only when Beardsley went deep to receive the ball. Ginola and Gillespie tended to be isolated and inactive. Forest were continuing to command the game.

Beardsley was to change all that. After half-an-hour Ferdinand, released by Lee's quick pass through a defence pushing up, bore down on Crossley but was tackled by Hasland before he could shoot, enabling the goalkeeper to avert the danger. In the next minute, however, Beardsley, collecting a pass from Batty 20 yards inside the Forest half, ran diagonally at the defence, shook his hips, dropped a shoulder, kept them guessing and then beat Hasland on the outside before scoring with a superb left-foot shot.

Then Newcastle were back where they had been at Leeds, leading by one, needing more to narrow the gap on goal difference, but missing chances.

As the first half ended, Watson's quick throw on the right found Beardsley sprinting through the defence to the by-line. The ball was cut back to set up Ferdinand for a second goal, but he scooped it high over the bar.

The habit continued after half-time. Forest, chasing an equaliser, were more likely to be caught on the break and Ginola had plenty of time and space to float a centre to the far post, where Elliott's diving header lacked the pace to beat Crossley.

Newcastle, nevertheless, were threatening to inundate a Forest defence now beginning to collapse in the familiar fashion. Crossley did not help by meeting a back pass with a wild slice behind for a corner, from which Albert went close.

In the 67th minute Ferdinand went even closer. Out-jumping Chettle as he met Elliott's centre from the left, the England striker made good contact with his header, only to see the ball rebound from the bar.

The possible cost of such misses and near-misses soon became apparent and in dramatic fashion. In the 74th minute Woan, exploiting a rare error by Batty, who allowed the ball to slip under his foot, struck his resounding equaliser.

Newcastle: Peter Crossley; Hasland; Cooper; Chettle; Pearce; Stone; Demmeil; Bert-Williams; Woan; Roy; Lee. Forest: Elliott; Hasland; Watson; Peacock; Albert; Elliott; Gillespie; Lee; Batty; Ginola; Beardsley; Ferdinand. Referee: J. Dixon (Nottingham).

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### Guardian Crossword No 20,643

Set by Janus

**Across**

- 1 Horse seller? (7)
- 3 Most profound nuisance on river (7)
- 9 Is present as one race finishes? (7)
- 10 Beginning of first letter? (7)
- 11 Unreliable green-assistant as a rule (5)
- 12 Send someone out to former French island (5)
- 13 Right about Scotsman's being gay? (5)
- 15 Restaurant or pit in state control (5)
- 17 Tears shed by fashion middlemen (5)
- 19 Paper given back to Amario as a sweetener (5)
- 22 King for example taking paper-round? (5)
- 23 Obvious display of irritation from one laying charge (5)

**Down**

- 1 Resounding error? (7)
- 2 Aerial-worker picking up-girl? (7)
- 3 Something one regards as hopelessly ruined (5)
- 4 Elastic arousing silent ire (5)
- 5 Paper-cleaner (5)
- 6 Prime side's external protection (5)
- 7 Omission by judge at Jerusalem (7)
- 8 Highest ordeal involving everybody? (7)
- 14 Bird needing to change notes perhaps (5)
- 16 Trial meant to overturn will (5)

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28 Model soldier was wounded three times it appears (7)

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